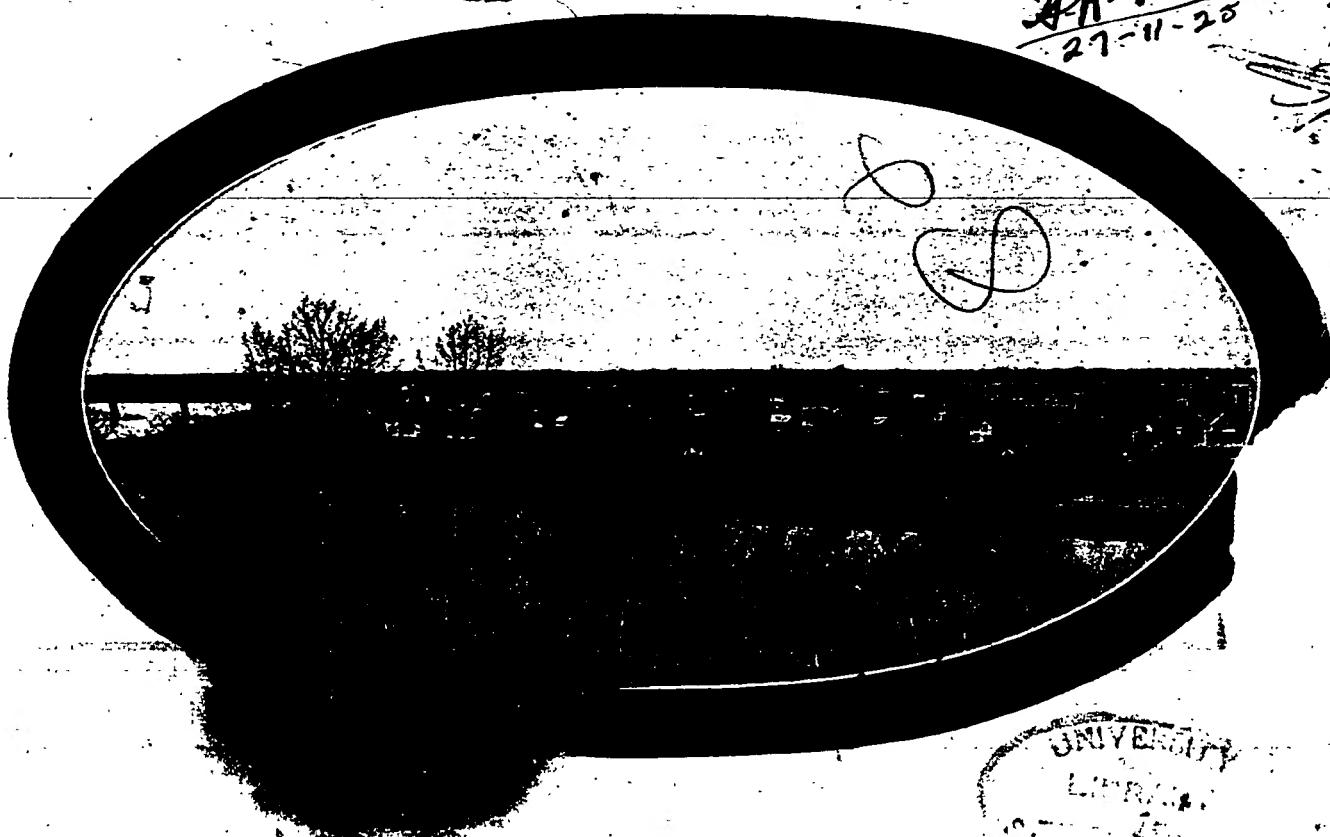


SASKATOON

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.....THE HUB OF THE
MARLBOROUGH-WHEAT BELT
OF
WESTERN CANADA

BOARD OF TRADE

, MAY, 1905

Censued Directory of Saskatoon

POPULATION 4,000

The Natural Distributing Centre of the Great Saskatchewan Valley
The Largest Hard-Wheat Area in the Whole World

CITY OFFICIALS.

Mayor—James Chinkskill.
Secy-Treas.—Adam Turner.
Solicitors—Smith & Brown.
Inspector—Corporal Dunning.
Fire Department—J. Wilson.
Department—A. E. Young.
W. J. Bell, P. H. Currie,
S. A. Clark, H. Baker, T.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

E. Paul.
V. P. Bate.
J. H. C. Willoughby, D. T.
St. Laurent, A. E. Young.
BOARD OF TRADE.
R. Oliver.
F. E. Harrison.
E. Young.
—Fred. M. Brown.
issioner—H. C. Beatty.
of Trade Council—W. A. Coul-
J. F. Cairns, T. Copland, James
ne, J. F. Johnson, W. P. Kirkpatrick, J.
Archie Smith, Dr. P. D. Stewart.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

Dominion Lands—R. McIntosh.
Immigration—W. Braun.
Registrar of Vital Statistics—A. S.
Mighton.
Postmaster—M. Isbister.
Customs Officer—J. D. Ferguson.

CHURCHES.

Anglican, Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian,
Roman Catholic, Salvation Army.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

Union Bank of Canada, Bank of Hamilton,
Canadian Bank of Commerce, Bank of
Montreal, Northern Bank, Bank of Nova
Scotia, National Trust Company.

RAILWAYS.

Saskatoon is now the divisional point on
the Prince Albert line of the C.P.R. The
C.P.R. Secondary Transcontinental to
Edmonton will be in operation in 1906 with
Saskatoon as its main divisional point. The
G.T.P. has bought the right of way for its

main line and let the contracts for the immediate construction of its road from Portage la Prairie to Saskatoon and from Saskatoon and Edmonton. Both the C.P.R. and G.T.P., now under construction through Saskatoon, are rapidly being rushed to completion.

BUSINESS PROGRESS.

Careful commercial statistics show business amounting to \$2,000,000 for the past year, an increase of \$800,000 over the preceding year. This is a conservative estimate. Over 500 settlers' cars unloaded here last spring.

1,500,000 bushels of the finest hard wheat were grown in the Saskatoon District in 1905—an increase of 300 per cent. over 1904.

CLIMATE.

The climate of the Saskatchewan Valley is exempt from extremes of heat or cold or from high winds, and there is an abundance of bright sunshine throughout the year.

SASKATOON

THE DISTRICT has every attraction to offer the prospective settler and grower of grain. For hundreds of miles in almost every direction from Saskatoon stretches, ready for the plow, a prairie pasture of almost fabulous fertility. This is rapidly being brought under cultivation. In 1905, Saskatoon District alone produced over 1,500,000 bushels of the finest Hard-Wheat grown in the whole world.

SASKATOON

THE CITY is a rapidly growing commercial centre, most charmingly situated on both banks of the beautiful South Saskatchewan River.

SASKATOON IS THE METROPOLITAN RAILWAY CENTRE of the most fertile and intensive Hard-Wheat Area in the World—the famous Valley of the Saskatchewan, where prairie farming has reached its most perfect development and where dollars are more easily made anywhere else on earth.

For further information about Saskatoon, or the Valley of the
SASKATOON BOARD OF TRADE, SASKATOON

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SASKATOON

Nature's Choice for the HUB of Saskatchewan

ITS CENTRAL POSITION AND NATURAL BEAUTY OF SITUATION—ITS HONORABLE HISTORY—ITS MARVELLOUS GROWTH—ITS GREAT RAILWAY POSSIBILITIES—THE INEXHAUSTIBLE WEALTH OF ITS ENVIRONS—ITS INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITIES—ITS INEVITABLE IMPORTANCE IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

(Special Staff Correspondence of the Manitoba Free Press)

Saskatoon, Sask., Feb. 16.—You feel the spirit of the place long before you reach here. There are so many in the same car as yourself—and indeed throughout the whole long train—who are "getting off at Saskatoon," that you really begin to think the whole travelling public are making headway hither. It is the same whether you come by the Canadian Pacific, round by Regina, or over the Canadian Northern by way of Warman, "Saskatoon" is the inevitable answer to the question, "Where are you going?"

It is easy to make friends with your fellow travellers. Either their home is here, or they have been here, or they are coming here to make a home; and whether from experience, or from expectation, they are all eager to speak, and are enthusiastic in speaking about, the advantages and

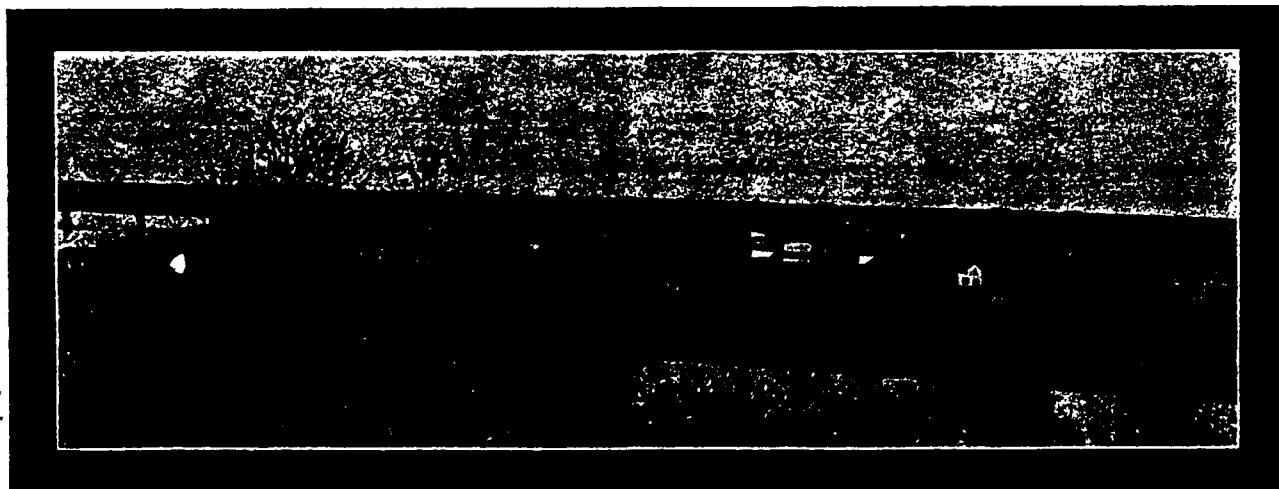
Note.—On May 29, 1906—after this article was written—Saskatoon was granted incorporation as a city.

beauties of nature's chosen site for the permanent centre of Saskatchewan. By this means your curiosity is aroused, wonder is excited, and you are all alert, by the time you reach the railway depot, to see what this great new city of the western plains is like.

And no wonder your fellow travellers to Saskatoon are so numerous! And no wonder they are so happy in their expectations. It is only lately that the name "Saskatoon" was first sprung upon the world—only with the opening up of this vast new empire of the spacious west. But the name has come to stay and to be heard in an ever widening sphere of influence, to be mentioned with respect in the high places of the world of industry and commerce. Therefore it is that this young town is a powerful and magnetic centre; therefore it is that the compass of current events in Saskatchewan points persistently to Saskatoon; therefore it is that men and women and children are flocking to it from

every quarter. It has said to the north, "Give up!" and to the south "Keep not back!" It has brought its sons from afar and its daughters from the ends of the earth, and here they are, located now in Saskatoon, and busy by day and by night preparing for a great future, building for themselves and for their children beautiful residences, happy homes and extensive and profitable business establishments.

Yes, here they are! Landed right down in the middle of a vast field of possibilities—potentials that are fast crystallizing into glorious realities! And let that point be noted—this is the very midst, the very heart, the hub, the core, of the wide-stretching field of western opportunity. This is not the gateway of the west. That is away back east. We are inside the portals here—far inside. The riches are here for which we came through the gateway. Here is the feast of good things about which we were thinking when passing through the portals of the Occident. Yes, they are all



SASKATOON—THE GEM OF THE SASKATCHEWAN

View of Part of the Rapidly Building City of Saskatoon, April, 1905, from the Picturesque Parkland Strip on the Opposite Bank of the Saskatchewan

SASKATOON—THE HUB OF THE

about us here, spread out over the prairie, bunched up by the thousands in the villages and towns and cities. This is not the gateway of the west—again we remind you of the fact. Here we are right inside. That is why the people stop here. A man will not be satisfied with coming to the door of the home of life and wealth. He must get inside. And so they come hither, and we may say that the whole of the west must inevitably pay tribute to its great centre city—yes, and the great world beyond, that lives upon the produce of the west, will pay tribute to it. And for the wheat and foodstuffs of the west that great outside world will send hither its silver and its gold. And when Saskatoon, with her strong arms of steel stretching out in every direction, feeds the world with the produce of the west, receiving in return the silver and the gold, when swiftly speeding trains, unceasingly by day and night, shall hurry to and from this centre of the west bringing hither men of every race and the wealth of every clime, then shall it be said of her, "Thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night, that men may bring unto thee the wealth of the nations."

True! Saskatoon will not be the only great city of the west. The west is immensely large and has room for many. The west is immensely fertile and wealthy and can support many. But no matter how large you make it there can be but one centre; no matter how wealthy you make it the whole must be more or less tributary to that centre. And by all the inviolability of geographical situation Saskatoon must be that centre.

The central position of Saskatoon is a very significant fact. If you draw the diagonals of the great square—or figure something like a square—which constitutes the habitable part of the latest born of our Dominion provinces, Saskatchewan, the point where those diagonals cross will be within twenty-five miles of the town of Saskatoon. Now in a vast area of territory, of which the part at present inhabited is between a hundred and sixty thousand and two hundred thousand square miles, the centre may well be said to be anywhere within a radius of twenty-five miles. So far, then, as Saskatchewan is concerned, Saskatoon is in the very heart of the province. But let us go farther afield and embrace all the "prairie provinces"—Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. If a straight line is drawn along the fifty-second parallel of north latitude from the Rocky Mountains to the eastern boundary of Manitoba, and that straight line bisected, the point of bisection falls exactly in Saskatoon. The fifty-second parallel of north latitude is the boundary between the old territories of Assiniboinia and Saskatchewan, and as each of these territories was exactly three terrestrial degrees in width, nothing more is necessary to prove that Saskatoon, measuring from east to west and from north to south, is the very centre of the vast prairie lands of western Canada. But we may go still farther afield and include not merely the "prairie provinces" but the whole of western Canada. Western Canada properly means that part of our Dominion lying west of Hudson Bay and the Great Lakes. Measuring in a straight line from New Westminster to Saskatoon, and again in straight lines from Saskatoon to Fort Churchill, York Factory, Port Arthur and Fort William, it will be found that there is scarcely

one hundred miles difference between any two of these distances. The heart of the Great West is here. The heart of the great wheat belt is here. The heart of Canada's agricultural wealth is here. The heart of the granary of the British Empire is here.

But it is not merely the central location of Saskatoon that appeals to the visitor here. "Beautiful for situation; the joy of the whole earth," was written of one famous city of the old, old world long ago. The same might well be written of this young city of the new world. Overlooking the waters of the noble, lordly Saskatchewan, she possesses a beauty of which few prairie cities can do more than dream and regret that they possess not. Few prairie towns have even the suggestion of a stream; if they have that much then it is such a stream usually as Job describes, "brooks that pass away; what time they wax warm, they vanish: when it is hot they are consumed out of their place;" streams that have to be dammed up to keep a little water for the thirsting neighborhood over the summer, and in the keeping of it grow stagnant and green, and filthy and full of the vile forms of swimming and creeping creatures and poisonous weeds—reservoirs of malaria. Not such a stream is the great river Saskatchewan—in many respects the noblest river of the far-reaching plains of the west. Beginning as a little tricklet far up in the Rocky Range she bids farewell at the great divide to the waterdrops that were born to grow into the kingly Columbia, and, as though mindful of their early associate, and eager to be worthy of such goodly company, the waters born to become the mighty Saskatchewan flow eastward through the channels of the Belly and the Bow until they become the "Swift Running Water" that binds together all the prairie provinces, and with its irrigating, fertilizing and refreshing influences knits them into one great federation which has all the strength of natural as well as national sisterhood.

Such is the natural situation of Saskatoon, and had the hand of man done nothing more it is evident that it was determined by nature that a great city should be located here. And that point is

worthy of the greatest emphasis, that Saskatoon's destiny was first of all the work of nature alone. There was no wire-pulling, no political lobbying, no bribery or scheming, to get a location and a townsite here. Nature said there was going to be a city here, and in the fullness of time it had to come—could not help it; and it is due to the same inevitability and inexorability of nature that this city so naturally located will grow and become the commercial metropolis even as it is now the hub of Saskatchewan. From nature she has received her situation; from nature she has inherited her boundless resources; to nature she owes her level plains, her rolling hills, her swift running river and its tree-clad banks and picturesque ravines; to nature she owes all the various gifts which combine to give her commercial as well as political importance and her ideal and fascinating beauty.

Yes, had the hand of man done nothing it was determined in the council chambers of nature that this was to be an ideal site for a great and wealthy and lovely city. But man finds it most conducive to his own interests to work in voluntary agreement with nature, and therefore he has done all he could hitherto, and his mind is steadily set in the near future on doing a great deal more. Even now she has railway communication with the outside world by two of the great transcontinental lines, and a third of these great steel highways of inter-oceanic transportation has secured its right-of-way within the city limits.

What more need be said as regards the situation of Saskatoon? Naturally and artificially it is destined to become the home of a great population, the centre of extensive trade and industries, the scene of far-reaching financial and commercial undertakings, a city conspicuous for meeting all the requirements which give importance and influence to any great centre of the civilized world.

Features in the Beauty of Saskatoon

Situated, as it is, on the Swift Running Water—for that is the English equivalent of the more musical Indian name, Sas-



View of the Beautiful Saskatchewan at Saskatoon

katchewan—the town of Saskatoon could not very well be otherwise than a place of beauty and a joy forever, to any eye that had a taste for the picturesque in nature. That river has been famous ever since the discovery of the great west for its broad expanses stretching far to the west and reflecting back into the region of advancing night; slowly making its way up from the east, the last beautiful rays of the setting sun. In the smooth mirrors of that river many an admiring traveller has beheld the royal glory of the evening sky—the purple and the gold, of which the western skies have such a wealth, enjoyed in two-fold measure. Combine with this the noble volume of the stream, its hurrying rapids, its deep still pools, its many meanderings, its high and picturesque banks, and upon eye that has never seen it there begins to dawn a faint idea of the natural beauty of our situation here. The river winds almost round the city, coming in at the southwest, then north so that it touches us on at least three sides. On the north and west the banks are not so high as on the opposite side, nor are they so well clad with vegetation. This leaves the view of the river and of the opposite bank more open, and on the opposite bank nature has done her utmost to make the scenery beautiful. The ornamentation of trees and ravines, and shrubs and natural paths that are easily convertible into lovers' walks; shady nooks; cool, reflecting springs, grassy terraces—it is all here; nothing has been spared from the wealth of nature to give gladness and brightness to the prospect.

And upon the sloping plain that overlooks this scene the town of Saskatoon is built—in the circular campus that fills a graceful curve in the river. And behind the town, and of a height almost imperceptible until you reach the top of them, are rolling hills and the elevated table-land of the prairie that surrounds the town and constitute its agricultural resources. From these gentle elevations, especially from Pleasant Hill, the name of one of the new suburbs of the city, a fine view is obtained not merely of the business and residential part of Saskatoon, but also of the river and its banks as well as of Nutana, the suburb on the eastern bank, which this summer will be incorporated with the main portion of the city.

Another of the features of Saskatoon which adds vastly to its beauty is the arrangement of its residences. Along the river front an appropriation of one hundred feet has been made for a residential street. This is known as Spadina Crescent, and even now at least a mile of handsome residences have been erected. The view of the river and its right bank is charming and no more pleasant site for a home could be wished for than upon Spadina Crescent. It is the intention of the town council to use thirty-two feet of the land appropriated for this street and drive for a boulevard—two stretches of trees, twelve feet wide, extending the whole length of the Crescent, and between these a sidewalk eight feet wide.

On the east and south bank of the river is the suburb known as Nutana, which is to be admitted into the corporation at the first session of the provincial legislature. This is a splendid building site, and if the capital of Saskatchewan is to come to Saskatoon—a question which we reserve for the present—will make a location for legislation hall and administration offices,

which for dignity of elevation, and beauty and picturesqueness of surrounding will equal, if not surpass, that of several other provinces, and river even that of the Dominion capital itself. Indeed the resemblance between it and the situation of the House of Commons at Ottawa has been remarked upon, in my hearing, by many strangers and visitors to Saskatoon. The high banks, the broad river rolling below, the great railway bridge a few hundred yards to the west and the central portion of the town, the great railway centre and the exact geographical centre, the great distributing city, the busy mercantile metropolis of the middle west, just across on the opposite bank—all these contribute to make the site a fitting one, and then the associations that go with the river: the part it has played in the history of this western land as one of the early waterways and channels of the first primitive commerce, and the part it played when history was a-making here, in the rebellion of '85; and then the respect, the reverence that noble river commands because of the long, busy miles of travel—while we were sleeping and waking alternately—it has had down from the lofty snow-capped mountains, and out through the great fertile plains; because of the fields of our fellow citizens which it has passed by leaving on its way the water of life for vegetation and for man and beast; because of the homes of our brother countrymen which it has visited; because of the sister provinces in the distant west from which it brings us loving messages—it all comes home to us here and we are compelled to say, this is a scene to inspire a truly national and patriotic spirit: the whole scene is full of the spirit, the life and the beauty of the west.

A Bit of History—An Honorable Record

Saskatoon does not live on its past, but it is determined to live in the future. The past it leaves behind in its enthusiasm for the good times yet to come. And yet it is a point with not a few really interesting historical associations. There are relics here that ought to be preserved as being of really national interest: houses that were used as hospitals for the sick and the wounded during the half-breed rebellion in 1885; and a house where Louis Riel himself spent a night under guard after he had

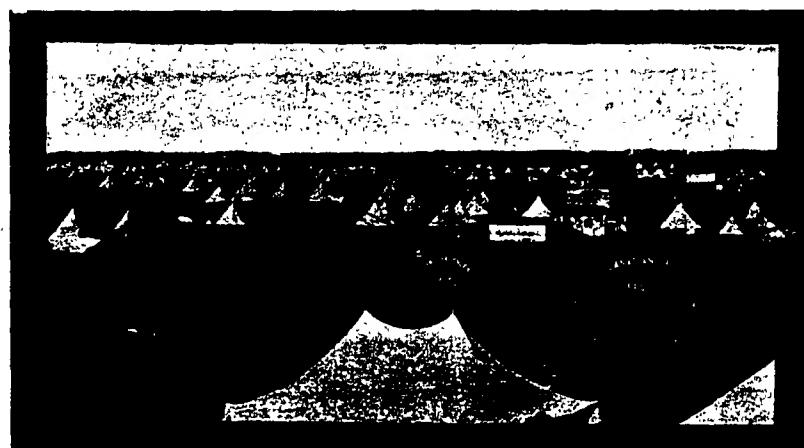
been taken prisoner. There are also other historical landmarks in the neighborhood, towards the preservation of which it has been proposed that the council should take some steps, and no doubt something will be done before it is too late, but at present there is more than sufficient of still more important matters to engage the attention of that honorable body, and it is in the solution of these new and more difficult problems which have relation to the future that its time is chiefly occupied.

And yet Saskatoon has a past of which it has no reason to be ashamed, for it has its share to tell of the heroic struggles of a noble band of pioneers. It was in 1882 that the first settlers came and looked over the ground. To James M. Eby, who still lives not far from the town, belongs the honor of first appreciating the possibilities of Saskatoon, and proving his appreciation by taking up a homestead and settling upon it in the confident hope of making a success in life. After him came James Hamilton, now deceased, who had the distinction of being the first justice of the peace appointed for this part of the country. Several sons of Mr. Hamilton are now living in Winnipeg, one being an electrician by profession and two others are practising medicine.

Thos. Copland was the next of the old-timers to come and with the town he has remained faithfully ever since. From the first, he declares, he never believed anything else but that a great future was in store for Saskatoon. His coming was in 1883, and his homestead—known in those days as the Hazeldean Seed and Stock Farm—bordered upon the present site of the town. Mr. Copland still enjoys the confidence and esteem of the entire community, and now resides in the town, engaging actively in business, and is a member of the executive council of the board of trade.

These early settlers in entering the country had come by way of Moose Jaw, and it was almost ten years later before they had a railway of their own. During all that time their attention was given principally to cattle, but with the incoming of the railroad between Regina and Prince Albert they found a market for their wheat, which they soon learned could here be raised most profitably both from the point of view of quantity and quality.

But meanwhile the rebellion of 1885 had frightened the people from coming in. Sev-



Saskatoon—A City of Tents—1903.

SASKATOON—THE HUB OF THE

eral who had started for the west stopped their cars en route and had them sent back home again. Not a few of those who were thus disengaged were unable ever to start out again, and are now either passed away or are plodding on still in the east, beholding from afar the prosperity of the west and dreaming of what might have been.

At the time of the rebellion the village of Saskatoon stood where now stands the pretty suburb of Nutana—that is, on the east side of the river. Of the present town on the west side there was not the slightest sign. Here in this old town the hospital corps of General Middleton's soldiers made their headquarters, the citizens of the place generously placing their houses—which, though small, were the best that could be had—at the disposal of the defenders of their country. Several of the houses which were used for this purpose are still to be seen in the old town, as is also the house

distinction was the property of four prominent Saskatoon farmers, and so excellent was the quality of the grain that it was afterwards taken to Toronto and it won honors at the exhibition there.

In the summer of 1890 the railway bridge over the Saskatchewan river at this point was constructed and during the following winter the railroad was running to Prince Albert. Now for the first time in the history of the place the mails came with reasonable frequency and regularity. In the very earliest days they had been carried by individuals from Moose Jaw. Whoever happened to be down there on business brought the mail for the entire community. Later a mail route was established between Fort Qu'Appelle and Prince Albert, and then the mail carrier was met at Batoche, where he transferred to another the mail matter for Saskatoon. As far back as 1884 a post office had been established in a store

became soon after softened into "Nootana" and finally into the present form, "Nutana." Such is the peculiar but official etymology which is given for this rather cunning and suggestive name for the suburb on the right bank of the Saskatchewan:

In 1903 came the Barr colonists, who did much to make the name of Saskatoon spread far and wide. This colony had excited so much curiosity both in the old land, in eastern Canada and in the States, on account of the novelty of the venture as well as on account of the magnitude of the undertaking, that everybody watched their movements closely, anxious to see the results. As Saskatoon was the end of their journey so far as the railroad was concerned, and here they made their preparations for trekking upwards of two hundred miles and then settling down on their homesteads, this place was naturally, so long as they remained, a busy, hustling business centre. And they numbered men, women and children, almost two thousand, where they lived in their canvas tents, and these were spread out over the prairie, presenting a most picturesque and memorable sight, which is still spoken of with interest. The coming of the Barr colonists, apart altogether from the wide advertising which it gave to this region, was a great impetus to Saskatoon and to the whole of Central Saskatchewan.

Since the days of the Barr colonists has been "The Growing Time" of Saskatchewan. The solution of it all, however, was wheat. For three years in succession the crops have been phenomenal and the growth of population has been just as wonderful. The output of grain was due to the two causes: of excellency of the season, and of increased acreage under cultivation. But as the figures increased the country became more widely and more favorably known and the influx of people became greater and greater. The Americans came and saw and at once went about to take peaceful possession. Many of these are returned Canadians, who are glad once more to be under the British flag. Many also from Ontario, from eastern Canada, and from Manitoba, and a large number from the British Isles are among the new settlers in the country.



Plainsman—A Type of the Past

in which the citizens and settlers for miles around assembled and held a council of war. White Cap and his band of Indians from down the river had set out to join the main body of the insurrectionists and the loyal people of Saskatoon who had always been on pleasant terms with the members of this band felt it to be their pressing duty to endeavor to persuade them to return. James Hamilton, already referred to, was delegated to this undertaking, and he called in the assistance of Mr. Copland. The attempt, however, proved of no avail, and the Indians were successful in joining the main body, remaining true to the cause of the revolutionists until the final peace, when their chief, White Cap, was tried for treason, but was acquitted.

If any year in the history of Saskatoon can be spoken of as "the dry year," it was that which immediately followed the rebellion, and yet even for that season all the experienced and careful farmers claim they had little short of a fair average. One of the great factors in the development of this district is the number of farmers who through many years of residence here can testify that they have never had a failure. The quality of the grain, too, must have been the best, for the Canadian Northwest Territorial exhibition, which was held at Regina in 1895, awarded with diploma, the sweepstakes for live stock and grain to the Central Saskatchewan Agricultural Society. The exhibit which won this high

kept by Dr. Willoughby.

For a whole decade after the building of the railroad the growth of the whole country was very slow and it was not until the new century, 1901, that real estate, farm lands, and business generally began to move. The beginning of it was the sale of several blocks of land—among others, of twenty sections by the Temperance Colonization Society—to a considerable number of incoming Americans.

And it was at this strategic moment that "Saskatoon" stepped over to the west side of the river. At first the little village had begun to grow upon the east bank, but with the incoming of these settlers the west was found to be the more convenient for their purpose, and stores, and offices, and houses began to be erected here. It was still Saskatoon, however. Quickly, very quickly, the western town outran and surpassed in size and importance the village on the east of the river. Then confusion arose as to which was the real Saskatoon. The inconvenience was felt chiefly in the post office. Therefore one of the towns must get another name. We would expect the old town would be left to enjoy the old name, but the new town had so completely surpassed it in importance that the smaller had to submit. This it did gracefully, and by spelling the old name backwards and transposing a few letters "Nootaska" was hit upon as a fit and proper designation. The harsher sounds at the end of this name

Saskatoon and Its Council

In the early months of 1903 Saskatoon was nothing more than a small village of about two hundred and fifty persons. Its growth that year was very rapid and in June it was incorporated as a town with a mayor and council. Since then it has grown until to-day it is over three thousand in population. Nor has the growth been anything of the mushroom type. To-day there is work for all and more than all that are here. Everybody is busy. The streets are not filled with idle men. Few loafers are to be seen. Each has his own work and pursues it diligently. The stores are large, and the stocks in many cases quite extensive, yet there has evidently been no overstocking, for the various business places are full of eager, questioning customers. There are farmers from the country, old settlers, new settlers, some with oxen, some with magnificent teams of Clydesdales, all eagerly bent on some business mission. There are ladies in warm, soft furs purchasing the necessities and the luxuries of home life. Everywhere the

HARD-WHEAT BELT—WESTERN CANADA.

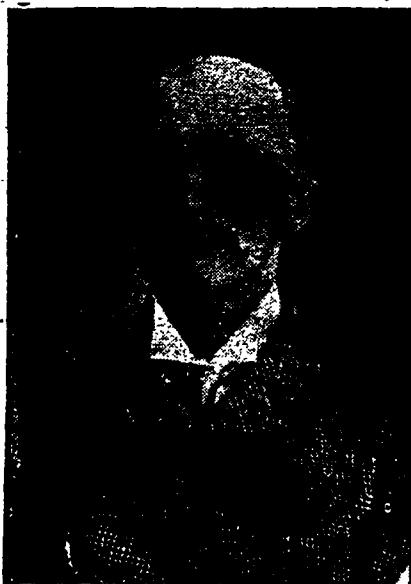
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manifestation of life is intense. In the offices and counting houses you find the proprietors of the business establishments shrewd, sober-minded business men, of

doing all he can and yet every business man, for they are all wide awake, is preparing to do more. Time is precious in Saskatoon. It is absolutely safe to say that even should there never come another railroad to Saskatoon; even should the possibilities of the mighty Saskatchewan as a magnificent water power remain undeveloped; even should manufacturers and wholesalers ignore its central location and its splendid advantages as a distributing point; and, lastly, even should the capital on Nutana's lovely hill never be anything more substantial than a pleasant dream; yet Saskatoon is not, at the present time, as large a town as its own resources and those of the country immediately tributary to it can support.

The Canadian Pacific railway which is here now, the branch line which is already graded into the Eagle Creek country, the extensive farming areas in the immediate neighborhood of the town itself, provide for Saskatoon a territory through which her influence must undoubtedly be supreme, and which even now, before it is anything like completely settled, demands a larger centre. This only means that Saskatoon,

business there and even at the present time has a large general store in that historic town. Mr. Clinkskill has done service in the legislative assembly of the Territories



JAMES CLINKSKILL
Mayor of Saskatoon

few words, most of them. The clerks do the serving; the planning, the buying, the adjusting is overseen by the heads of the firm. Everything is healthy about the business of Saskatoon. There is no undue pushing; no anxiety to make all that can be made to-day for fear the thing will fall through to-morrow. There is a feeling rather, as though everything that is here to-day were only preparatory for what is to come to-morrow—a quiet, confident fullness of hope in the greater business demands and opportunities which must inevitably and unquestionably come. Yes, every business man who is here to-day is



W. C. SUTHERLAND, M.L.A.
Saskatoon

because of her environs offers business opportunities which, as yet, are far from being exhausted.

In 1903 the assessed value of property in Saskatoon was \$700,000, and for 1906 it will pass considerably beyond the million mark. The rate of taxation was twenty-four mills on the dollar, one half of which was school rate, and the balance went for general purposes. It is a significant fact, and shows the care bestowed upon education in Saskatoon, that one half of the whole taxes levied should be appropriated to educational purposes. But the need for this, and the abundant evidence of the zeal of our citizens in this matter shall be more fully shown in another place in this sketch.

The present mayor of the town is Mr. James Clinkskill, an old settler in this country, though for far the greater portion of the period of his residence in the west his home has been in South Battleford. For many years he has been engaged in



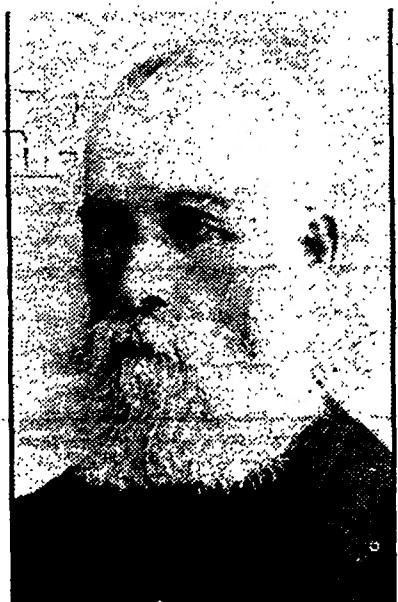
JAMES R. WILSON
The First Mayor of Saskatoon and at present City Councillor

before the erection of the new provinces. He is engaged in the business of a general merchant here and is now filling the mayoralty chair of the town as the third in succession of its occupants.

The council is composed of six other members. Mr. James R. Wilson, the first mayor of the town, who held office in that capacity from the date of our incorporation in July, 1903, until the 31st of December, 1904. Mr. Wilson is a progressive citizen



**M. ISBISTER, Ex-Mayor,
Postmaster, Saskatoon.**



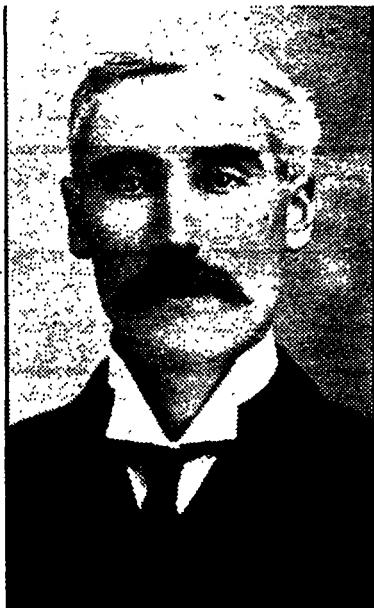
THOS. COPLAND
One of the First Settlers at Saskatoon and at Present City Councillor

SASKATOON—THE HUB OF THE

who enjoys the entire confidence of his fellow-townsmen. He is engaged in the flour-milling and grain business and has had an extensive experience in the west where he has resided for nearly twenty-five years.

Mr. W. C. Sutherland is a member of the town council as well as of the provincial parliament—willing to serve his town not only in the dignified capacity of one of the legislators of his province, but even in her own humble courts. An easterner by birth and education, Mr. Sutherland has spent more than a decade in the west, for several years practising law in Manitoba. Though a barrister by profession, he finds real estate in Saskatoon and the Saskatchewan valley more profitable, and consequently most of his attention is bestowed upon it.

Mr. Henry Baker is a more recent acquisition to the ranks of good citizens in the west. He came from Stratford some three years ago, when first the name of Saskatoon became famous. He had every thing to induce a man to remain in the east, comfortable home, comfortable means,



W. J. BELL
Councillor, Saskatoon

municipal honors, large business opportunities, but for the time being the glory of the prospects of the west outshine everything else and Mr. Baker has made his home with us, and we trust permanently.

Mr. W. J. Bell is also a new comer to Saskatoon, but not to the west. For several years he was engaged in business in Stonewall, but with the wider opportunities which the development of this town and country revealed, he was induced to cast in his lot with us. He is an enterprising and public-spirited citizen, manifesting a great interest in the hockey team of which he is honorary president. He is engaged in the implement business and testifies that all the indications which one can gather from this occupation are that an exceptionally good class of farmers are making Saskatoon and its neighborhood their home, and that the prospects for the future are the very brightest.



J. E. PAUL
Chairman of the Saskatoon School Board

Mr. Clark, another councillor, is serving his second term in that honorable body. His is one of the leading hardware establishments of the town.

Mr. P. H. Currie is a member of the firm of Currie Bros., which stands among the first of the firms of general merchants.

Mr. D. T. Smith is town solicitor. It is more than ten years since Mr. Smith graduated from Osgoode Hall, Toronto, and from that date until coming west three years ago, he practised law in the Queen City of Ontario, being for a time a partner in the firm of which the late post master-general of Canada, Mr. Mulock, was the senior. But in 1903, first the west in gen-



D. T. SMITH
City Solicitor, Saskatoon

eral, then Saskatoon in particular, appealed forcibly to Mr. Smith; he began to realize there was something here, and he came out to see and has remained. Now he is too busy to think of doing anything else. On account of his genial qualities as well as the fact that he is learned in the law, Mr. Smith's future in Saskatoon and Saskatchewan and the west is assured.

Mr. Adam Turner is clerk and treasurer of the town. Born in Owen Sound, Ont., and educated at Orangeville, in the same province, Mr. Turner for several years was engaged in the drug business in Orangeville. It was for the purpose of carrying on this business that he left Ontario and came to Saskatoon three years ago. Sickness, however, rendered it impossible for Mr. Turner to pursue his original intention, and on going out of business he accepted the office of town clerk, which Mr. W. C. Sutherland had just at that moment resigned. Soon after Mr. Turner had commissioners of justice of the peace and offered upon him the double government



P. H. CURRIE
Councillor, Saskatoon

official auditor in which capacity all school accounts, local improvement account and village accounts come under his supervision.

Business, Business Houses and The Board of Trade

The business done in Saskatoon is both wholesale and retail, and in both respects the business of the town is bound to grow. As a retail centre it will be one of the very best on account of the extensive farming districts, whose inhabitants must do all their marketing here. These people, too, are not of the poorer class; they are settlers whose tastes and ideals of life have been formed often in the best circles and under most auspicious circumstances elsewhere, and they do not intend very long to endure the privations of pioneer-life. To this end the fertility and productiveness of

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the soil and the ready market of Saskatoon will materially aid. Inevitably then the wants of these people will very soon necessitate that the local market be provided with all kinds of the very best quality of goods.

And the wholesale trade is one of Saskatoon's great hopes, one of the factors by which her future is guaranteed. At the present time a large wholesale and distributing trade is done in Saskatoon. The Imperial Oil Co. has a branch here, as has also the Canadian Oil Co. The finely equipped modern flour mill of Messrs. Leslie and Wilson ships its celebrated Champion flour all over the Prince Albert branch of the Canadian Pacific railway, east and west along the Canadian Northern, and some of it even finds its way out to British Columbia. J. F. Cairns' large departmental stores does a wholesale business in the matter of groceries. The Calgary Brewing Company and Drewry of Winnipeg make this their headquarters for Central Saskatchewan. Sawyer and Massey do a wholesale business in threshers from this point, and the Great West Furniture Company, at present doing a very extensive retail business, are only waiting for the opening of spring to greatly enlarge their premises for the purpose of entering aggressively upon a wholesale business in furniture. Other wholesale establishments also have passed under our notice, and in this direction there must be immediate improvement. When the different lines of railway, which have taken steps to enter Saskatoon, have completed their construction this will be the most conspicuous railway centre between Winnipeg and Edmonton and as such will be the most convenient spot in the whole of the centre west of Canada for the breaking of bulk. The central location of Saskatoon will be too important a matter for wholesalers, to despise.

In the matter of building substantial business blocks a great improvement is sure to take place within the current year. At the present time the business buildings

are certainly not what one would expect who had any knowledge of the volume of business done beneath their roofs. Some extremely tidy and tasty office buildings there certainly are. The offices of Messrs. Coulthard and Alexander are certainly deserving of special mention in this respect. But speaking of business blocks generally, while such as would pass for good in many a western, or even in some of our eastern towns, they are not such as a town the size of Saskatoon would warrant. The reason for this is plain: Saskatoon has grown so rapidly that even while many of these buildings are new the town has far outgrown them. More than that, Saskatoon was growing so rapidly when these were put up, the exigencies of business were so great and so pressing, that all these buildings were erected in the greatest hurry. But already several large sales of real estate have been made in the very heart of the town; the intention of the buy-

ers at the present time their businesses are all as great as their store capacity will allow. It is evidently to get room for expansion both to meet the present demands and to



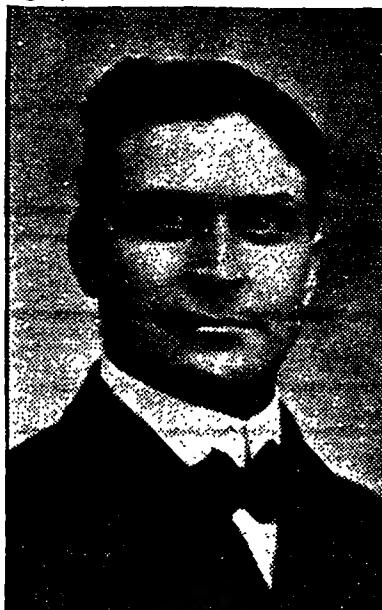
A. E. YOUNG
Treasurer, Saskatoon Board of Trade

avail themselves of future opportunities that their building operations are under consideration.

And now as regards the Saskatoon board of trade, I doubt if there is any city or town in the west that has a more energetic, enlightened and judicious set of men on the executive of its board of trade than has Saskatoon. The whole board is composed of practically all the business men of the city and the whole body of citizens support it loyally, and are eager to take a share in promoting its progressive and business-like policy. The citizens are proud of their board of trade and do their utmost to co-operate with it. This, however, is the characteristic spirit in all the business circles of Saskatoon; the business men, no matter how keen may be the competition between them individually, when it comes to a question of the best way of advancing the interests of the town they are all found on the same string—pulling together. Where such is the case it is a pleasure for a stranger to mingle among them and to do business with them.

The late president of the board of trade was Dr. Willoughby, and under his leadership a progressive policy was followed, which resulted in many advantages to the town. At present he is in the east, and even there he is not forgetful of the interests of his adopted city which he—a settler since the days of the rebellion, when he served on the medical staff of General Middleton—has seen grow up from a very small hamlet to be a city of far-reaching and commanding influence in the west.

Mr. Frank R. Oliver has been head of the executive since the opening of the present year and to him must be given not a little of the honor of moulding the policy of the board of trade ever since the beginning of its existence. A farsighted busi-



F. R. OLIVER
President, Saskatoon Board of Trade

ers being to erect massive and up-to-date business blocks. One hotel—and that one of the very finest in the west—was erected this winter by a Brandon firm at a cost of \$48,000. Another large block costing \$35,000, the plans for which we have seen, is to be built by one of the largest trust and loan companies doing business in Winnipeg. Another large retail and wholesale firm already mentioned in this sketch will erect a thoroughly up-to-date block to be used as a departmental store, distributing by wholesale and retail all over the vast territory through which the various railway lines entering Saskatoon will pass. We have heard of at least a dozen large business blocks which will be set about with the opening of spring; we have talked with the business men who intend to have these buildings erected; and we have found them clear-headed, shrewd, principled men of business, and when they make public an intention of this kind it is not for the purpose of deceiving the public. Indeed, there could be no motive for their doing so, for



F. M. BROWN
Secretary, Saskatoon Board of Trade

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ness man, he does not take long to pick up a good idea, and when once he has committed himself to any object he pursues it with the same zeal which has made him so



W. A. COULTHARD
Executive Saskatoon Board of Trade

successful in his own business. We shall speak of Mr. Oliver again and therefore only add that he is one of those who came to the west with the good times which began three years ago.

The vice-president of the board is Mr. F. E. Harrison, local manager of the Union Bank of Canada. Mr. Harrison first saw the light of day in Belleville and was educated there and in Ottawa, and later at Upper Canada College in Toronto. He served the Union bank in various capacities at different points throughout Ontario and four years ago he came to the west. His first two years here were spent at Weyburn and the last two have been spent as manager here. As a citizen here he has an enviable reputation for sociability and his influence is thereby increased. He has done his part for the local sports, having played on both the hockey and lacrosse teams, and of the former he is president. His position as vice-president of the board of trade is due to his business reliability and his loyalty to local interests.

The secretaryship to the board is held by Fred M. Brown, one of our practising barristers. Mr. Brown is a Kingston boy, where his father was a physician. Of course Queen's is his university and his respect for his alma mater and his cordiality towards her alumni are characteristically strong. For several years after his call to the bar he practised law in his native city, but two years ago the call for the west was heard and obeyed. He came to Saskatoon and soon after entered into a legal partnership with his present partner, the town solicitor mentioned above, the two together constituting the firm whose name is not now heard for the first time, but is known far and wide, the firm of Smith & Brown.

Mr. A. E. Young is treasurer of the board. He hails from the town of Russell

in eastern Ontario, and has been in this country for a good many years. Prior to taking up his residence here he was located in Prince Albert. Five years ago he came to Saskatoon and opened up a general store in what is now called Nutana. This he gave up after a time to open his present undertaking business.

The councillors of the board of trade are eight in number, and include several of the best business men in the city. Mr. Thos. Copland is the old pioneer already mentioned, who came hither from Hamilton, Ont., twenty-three years ago. Though a druggist by profession and educated in the old country to that calling, Mr. Copland has not followed it since coming to the west, but has devoted his attention first to cattle raising, then to seed and grain cultivation and more lately to real estate and agency work. He is frequently referred to as the father of Saskatoon, and indeed his care of her interests in many critical periods of her history has been fatherly in the extreme. Commanding the esteem of

ties in the branches at Moosomin, Regina and Calgary.

No review of the members of the board of trade would at all approach completeness that did not give a good, liberal space to Mr. W. A. Coulthard, one of the most genial, most successful and far-seeing of all the business men of the city. American in very many of his ways, there are few who would suspect Mr. Coulthard of ever having seen a foot of Canada until he heard of Saskatoon and became convinced that in all of Yankeesland there was nothing to approach it. And yet Mr. Coulthard is a Canadian, was born in the famous township of Zorra, and therefore must be of Scotch extraction—Highland Scotch, too, we would imagine, coming from that famous fastness, but he says not. Yet he has come by his American ways honestly, for he is a nephew of a great American capitalist whose name has been almost a by-word in most western homes as that of the president of the Saskatchewan Valley Land Co.—Lieut.-Colonel Davidson. With Colonel Davidson Mr. Coulthard has spent the greater portion of his life, and until coming to the Canadian west he had filled several comfortable positions in Minnesota. The possibilities of Saskatoon, however, were a powerful attraction, and he has made money since making this his home.

Dr. Stewart is at present the only professional man who occupies a position on the executive of the board. It was necessary that the county of Bruce, which has given several of its sons to the west, should be represented, and therefore Dr. Stewart, who hails from Lucknow, Bruce county, Ont., was chosen for this purpose. Dr. Stewart is a graduate of Manitoba Medical College, and has been practising here for four years, and at the present time enjoys the confidence of a large number of patients and families. Before studying medicine he taught school for a time in Manitoba.

Mr. J. F. Johnson, druggist, is an Owen Sound boy, as indeed are a considerable number of the people of Saskatoon. He



F. E. HARRISON
Vice-President of Saskatoon Board of Trade

everybody and possessing the ripe experience of years spent in business and pioneering, Mr. Copland still takes the active part of a young man in all matters relating to his chosen city, his church and his business.

Mr. W. P. Kirkpatrick is another member of the executive. He is the popular manager of the local branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce. Though resident here only for a short time as yet, having come less than twelve months ago, he has already identified himself with the aggressive party in promoting the interests of Saskatoon, and his services on the executive of the board of trade are highly appreciated. Like the worthy vice-president mentioned above, Mr. Kirkpatrick is an Upper Canada College boy, his early home having been in the city of Toronto. He has been connected with the Bank of Commerce for over twelve years, and before coming to Saskatoon had acted in various capaci-



W. P. KIRKPATRICK
Executive Saskatoon Board of Trade

HARD-WHEAT BELT—WESTERN CANADA.

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made a study of pharmacy along with Mr. Alex. Campbell, at that time in Owen Sound, but at present connected with the wholesale house of Martin, Bole & Wynne. After a few years in business in Owen Sound Mr. Johnson came west, and has been in business in Saskatoon since 1902.

Mr. J. F. Cairns is one of the largest wholesale merchants of the town, and has been in business here for the last four years, during which time his business has expanded from very small proportions until now he does not only an extensive retail trade, but also a growing wholesale trade in several lines. He hails from Chatham and London, Ontario. He is a graduate of Albert College, Belleville, and for a time was language master in the Chatham Collegiate Institute. He is always spoken of as one of the most successful and business-like and best informed of Saskatoon's general merchants.

James Leslie, another executive officer, is a pioneer of the Saskatoon district—at least he has not been in these parts since before the railroad was built in 1891. He comes from Barrie, Ontario, and when first he came among us it was in the capacity of public school teacher. On giving up school teaching he went into business along with his present partner, Mr. Jas. R. Wilson, in the general mercantile business, opening a store in the old town of Saskatoon, now known as Nutana. When the new town sprang up they moved to the west side of the river with their general stock. While so engaged they were almost involuntarily drawn into the grain buying business, for no one else was engaged in it. From buying grain to manufacturing it into flour was not a very great step, and it was soon taken by this enterprising firm. This new venture

One name remains, that of J. A. Smith, one of the respected merchants of the town. He too, is one of the pioneers, having come here about twenty years ago from the neighborhood of Wingham, Ontario. With his father he took up a homestead about five miles out of Saskatoon—at a point which has since received their name and is known as Smithville. In Saskatoon Mr. Smith has



DR. P. D. STEWART
Executive Saskatoon Board of Trade

been engaged in the grocery business for several years.

Such is the board of trade and its executive in this progressive town. They are fully alive to all the possibilities of the



H. C. BEATTY
Commissioner of the Saskatoon Board of Trade

place and are energetic in the promotion of all its interests. Of course it is the matters of great importance, like the railways and municipal franchises, that especially engage the attention of the board of trade. But smaller interests are not ignored, and every line of business is encouraged. Just here it might be well to give a brief review of the various business establishments, especially retail, which are to be found in the town. There are here eight general stores, four men's furnishing stores, two flour and feed stores, four restaurants, seven hotels, two stores dealing in dry goods only, five hardware stores, two drug stores, and a



J. F. JOHNSON
Executive Saskatoon Board of Trade

proved so profitable that soon the mercantile business was given up, and since then Mr. Leslie and his partner have given their entire attention to the manufacturing of flour and the extension of their business.



Leslie & Wilson's Flour Mill, Saskatoon

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third now in course of erection, six implement stores, two liquor stores, three stores dealing in groceries only, four lumber yards, eight feed and livery stables, two butchers, three banks,* and one if not two others soon to open; two photographers, one book store, three harness shops, two furniture stores, one undertaker, four laundries, four barbers, two dentists, six doctors of medicine, seven lawyers, two veterinary surgeons, one brick yard, one cement factory, two planing mills, one machine shop, four jewellers, four blacksmiths, two dray transfers, besides at least a score of other larger or smaller establishments such as are to be found in a town of this size.

Finance, Banking and Real Estate

Banking is an interesting feature in the life of Saskatoon at the present time. There are *three chartered banks here now, and they are all doing an extensive business. The first to come upon the scene was the Bank of Hamilton, which opened up for business early in the year 1903. Before the end of the summer in the same year the Union Bank of Canada, which was at that time aggressively pushing forward its branches and doing much for the financial betterment of western Canada, opened an office here. For two years these two strong concerns met the requirements of Saskatoon, but in May, last year, they were joined by a third—the Canadian Bank of Commerce. Already the volume of business done here is beginning to justify a still greater increase in our banking capacity, and it is expected that within a few weeks the youngest of all our chartered banks, and the most essentially western, the Northern Bank of Winnipeg, will open out a branch office here. Rumor has it, too, that as soon as the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific reaches this neighborhood that a branch of the Bank of Montreal will locate here.

It is only natural to expect that a very extensive banking business would be done in Saskatoon, inasmuch as this town is the centre for such large land operations as those of the Saskatchewan Valley Land Co. and other similar corporations. The volume of business done by these land companies runs far up into the millions, and Saskatoon is the centre which is situated nearest to the lands themselves, and is, therefore, the best point in which to do business. But apart from this external business, the internal financial condition of Saskatoon at home is most healthy. Throughout the surrounding country we have a first-class lot of farmers who, when they borrow, pay back promptly. The merchants of Saskatoon generally are all in good financial condition. As showing the good position of local men and land-holders throughout the town, it is interesting to consider the figures given us by the tax collector for 1905. The assessment of real property for that year was upwards of \$700,000.00, the rate upon which for both school and general purposes was twenty-four mills. This made a levy of between fifteen and sixteen thousand dollars, and by the 31st of December, 1905, all of this amount was paid except about one

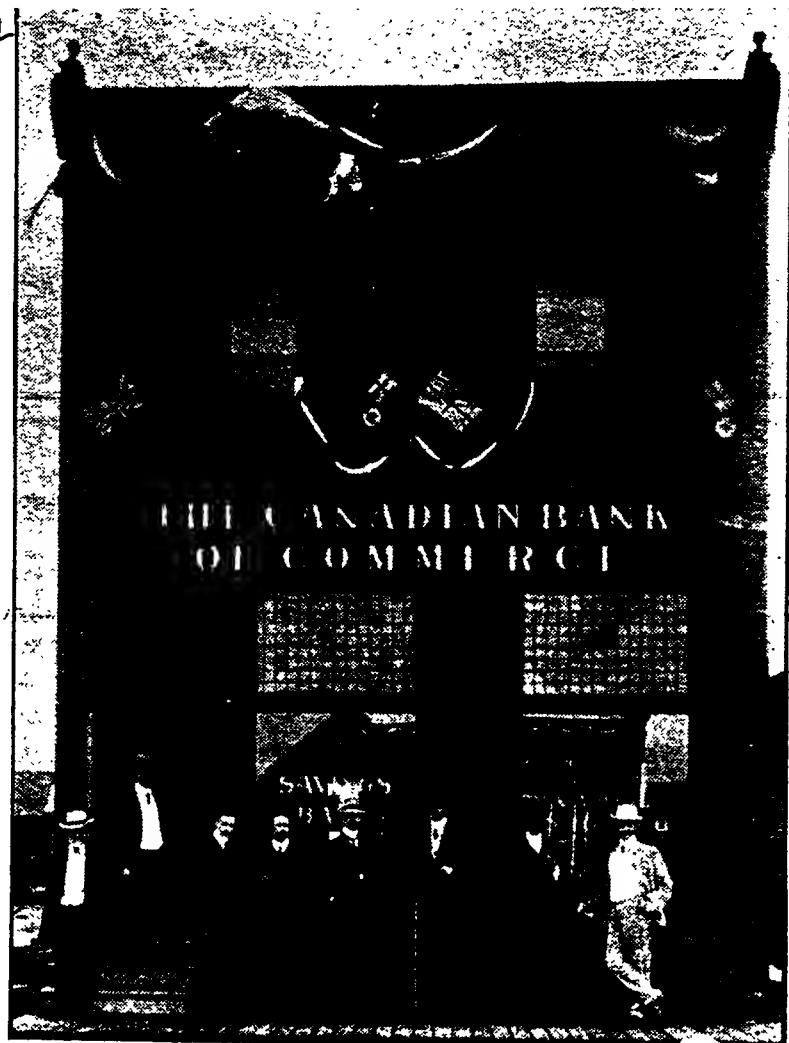
* Six chartered banks, May, 1906.

The Bank of Montreal, Northern Bank and Bank of Nova Scotia are all established in Saskatoon and doing business, May, 1906.

thousand five hundred dollars, which was due nearly entirely by outsiders residing at a considerable distance from Saskatoon.

Regarding the prospects of the money market in the near future and throughout the coming summer, the opinion of the different bank managers of Saskatoon is that it will be easy. The causes for this are manifold. In the spring of 1906 a very great proportion of the homesteaders in the district will secure their patents, inasmuch as they came in here in 1903. As few of them will be satisfied with a quarter section, they will be buying more land and borrowing money on their homesteads. The

railroads in this neighborhood, which is inevitable during the coming season, will also supply a large amount of ready money, as also will the season's immigration which begins with the opening of spring, and of which Saskatoon will certainly get her share. All these circumstances are certain to conduce to a most healthy monetary condition in Saskatoon. As regards the savings bank business of the different banking institutions, all things considered, this is good, but the interest offered by banks is too small, and the other inducements for investment so constantly springing up on every hand are so strong that every citizen



Bank of Commerce, Saskatoon

loan companies see this clearly, and are preparing to meet the demand. Another factor that will contribute considerably to the advantage of the money market is the wheat that has been held over from last year for sale in the spring. The enormous crops of the last three years have put the farmers of this district on such a sound footing that they are now able to hold their wheat in many cases until the market suits them. Owing to the bumper crop of last season a great deal of wheat was held over, and it will be sold with the spring rise in prices. The construction work on the

prefers to invest his money himself rather than commit it to the savings bank.

The study of real property conditions in Saskatoon brings out many interesting facts. There are a large number engaged in the real estate business, and there is not one but has made well in Saskatoon. Prices are certainly very high on First and Second avenues, especially on Second, which is certain to become the principal business street of the city, and these prices have risen very fast; but it can safely be said that there is nothing of the boom spirit in even these figures. High figures have been

refused frequently, and when high figures have been paid, as was the case only last week when the Bank of Commerce paid \$12,000 for thirty-five feet frontage on Second avenue—these high figures have been paid by institutions or parties who are in a position to know the future value of these properties—by parties or institutions whose controlling heads are themselves in many cases influential shareholders in the great railway companies who will make secure the destiny of Saskatoon. Some of these figures may be given here, and at the same time the figures at which these properties exchanged hands some years or months ago, so that the reader may have an idea as to the growth of real property value. One lot upon which one of the chartered banks of the city now stands was bought four years ago for \$30; to-day if it were put on the market it would bring at least \$10,000. A vacant corner lot situated on Second avenue was bought by its present owner two years ago for \$750; this year he has already refused \$15,000 for it. In this case it may be proper to state that an influential capitalist is supposed to have an option upon it at a price which no local offer approaches. The price of the fine piece of property—perhaps the best corner in the city—secured by the Bank of Commerce, has already been mentioned. Another corner lot in the neighborhood of the magnificent Empire hotel exchanged hands less than a year ago at \$3,500, and to-day it cannot be bought at \$15,000. All these prices relate to properties situated in the very heart of the business section. The contrasts are not quite so great, because the territory involved is very much larger, when we go out towards the suburbs. Just north of the exhibition grounds in the north end of the town 190 acres were bought some few years ago for \$4 an acre; 50 acres of it have already been sold at \$100 an acre, and \$14,000 refused for the balance. One of the most reliable real estate firms in the city bought a large tract on the south-west side of the city, subdivided, and before they had sold more than two-fifths of their lots they had realized between four and five times the original purchase price. Another property to the west of the townsite was bought at \$6,000. Already \$4,000 profit has been made, and the owner has still over 200 lots to put on the market.

Such are some of the prices and some of the profits which have been realized on Saskatoon property. There is one class of literature which is conspicuous by its absence here, and that is the real estate agent's sign board, "For Sale" or "To Let." There is nothing in the shape of a house or an office to be had in the town. In this respect Saskatoon presents a remarkable contrast with even its great and respected eastern sister Winnipeg. Indeed, one real estate man who has been in business both in Winnipeg and Saskatoon expressed his satisfaction with the condition of things here by saying that real estate chances in Saskatoon to-day are very much as they were in Winnipeg five years ago.

And it is not merely in town property that large operations are in progress, but perhaps the same is even more true with regard to farm lands. The firm of Sutherland & Engen, of which Mr. W. C. Sutherland, M.L.A., is senior member, have sold during the last two years something over a quarter of a million acres of land, most of it in the Goose Lake and Eagle Hill Creek countries which lie west and southwest of this point. This firm has sold more lands in



Bank of Hamilton, Saskatoon

Saskatoon for the Saskatchewan Valley Land Co. than were sold by that company themselves at their Winnipeg office. Indeed their sales were the largest land sales made by any private firm in western Canada.

It is Saskatchewan Valley land which at the present time is attracting the eyes of the whole English-speaking world, especially of old country men and Americans. It is the "Last West," as it has been called; certainly it is the last on the American continent, and the settlement of it must therefore be the last great colonizing effort the world is likely to see. It is an immense wheat belt stretching clear from Saskatoon to Edmonton, and is at least two hundred miles wide. As the gateway to this belt Saskatoon may indeed be called one of the chief gates of the west.

In speaking of financial conditions and of the future of Saskatoon the faith which is manifested in it by the powerful monetary concerns of the country is evidence of the greatest weight. The faith of the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Saskatchewan Valley lands is amply proved by the fact of their having already secured sites for building purposes in all the principal towns along the Canadian Northern railway from Winnipeg to Edmonton. In several of these points they have already erected bank buildings and opened their offices for business. Their steps towards a bank block on one of our best corners is a fact not without its significance. But of even greater significance is the opening up of a branch of the National Trust and Loan Company at this point. Already their local manager, Mr. Gunn, has been in town for a fortnight and the temporary offices of the company on the northwest corner of Second avenue and Nineteenth street are fast getting ready for occupation. They will be opened for business in less than a week. But these offices are only temporary and in no way fitted to do the business that the National Trust expects to do and which it knows perfectly well will soon have to be done at this point. We have seen the plans of the magnificent new block which will be erected upon this corner, which they have purchased at a cost of ten thousand dollars, and we at least go so far as to say

that it is such a block as would do credit to the best business section of any city in Canada. It is to be erected out of cement blocks, will be three storeys high, and will have spacious offices for the transaction of their own business as well as accommodation for a bank on Second avenue.

Now the significance of this fact is very evident to anyone initiated into even the outer circles of the labyrinth of financial institutions in Canada. For those who are not so initiated I may be pardoned if I tell them that the National Trust is one of the largest and strongest of all the Canadian companies, holding a place undoubtedly among the first three or four. Not only is it large but it has on its directorate several men who occupy prominent positions upon the directorate of other large monetary concerns and even upon our international railway boards. One of the principal directors, for instance, of the National Trust—one who is known to have scarcely a superior for financial strength in Canada—is one who holds a prominent and influential place and has a very familiar name not only in financial but in political circles—this director of the National Trust is also president of the Canadian Bank of Commerce and a director of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway. Does this mean anything? Is it likely the National Trust is moving in the dark?—or the Bank of Commerce? Have their recent movements not a very considerable degree of significance?

This new building which the National Trust is to erect, and the work will begin as soon as the frost is out of the ground, will cost them thirty-five thousand dollars. It will be a building worthy of the company, and Saskatoon feels proud and her confidence in her future is strengthened when such a building is erected by a company which hitherto has restricted its building operations to such cities as Toronto—the head office—Montreal, Winnipeg and Edmonton.

As still further showing the confidence which this company reposes in Saskatoon, and as a matter of real estate information, it is now made known that a quarter section in Nutana, or old Saskatoon, was purchased a few days ago by them at a cost of eleven thousand dollars.

SASKATOON—THE HUB OF THE

Local Improvements and Municipal Affairs

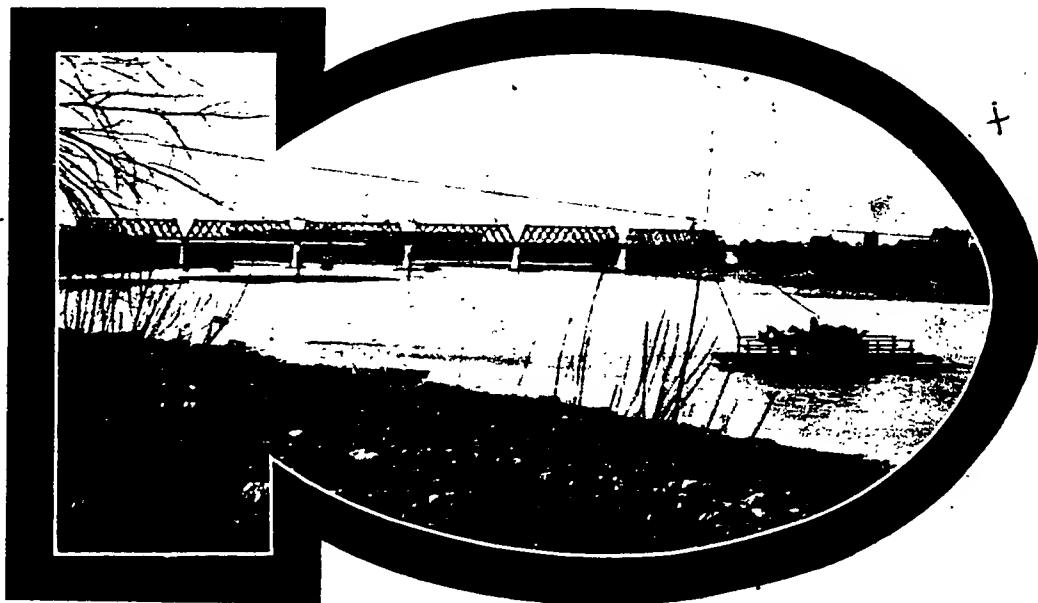
With a progressive council such as that of which we have already spoken, and with opportunities such as those involved in the future of Saskatoon, it is to be expected that municipal affairs should be almost constantly before the people. Many and important are the problems for the improvement of local conditions now under consideration. There are the problems of electric lighting, of municipal water works, of drainage and sewerage, of annexation of suburbs, of incorporation as a city, matters coming from the school board and the board of trade, fire protection, and perhaps half a dozen others of greater or lesser importance, besides all the ordinary routine works which necessarily develops upon such a body.

The first great question to which the

dollars—a surprisingly small sum for a young city whose assessed valuation will be for the year 1906 considerably over one million. It may further be said that nearly the whole of the above mentioned debenture indebtedness was incurred by the corporation in the interests of its public schools.

Of most importance after drainage and sewerage is the problem of electric lighting. Two methods are now under consideration by the council; one, the supply of power by a private company, and the other, the establishment of a power plant by the corporation itself. The latter methods seem to be much more in favor, and, indeed, it is the opinion of most of the principal members of the council that the town should, from the first, be the owner of all its franchises. At a recent meeting of the council the proposal of the private company was considered but the rate at which they offered to supply power was felt to be too

close to it that it is impossible to mark their respective boundaries, is an incorporated village. The other is Nutana, the old village of Saskatoon, on the east side of the river. Besides these are several "additions" which are fast being settled up and built upon. Even now these "suburbs" are practically part of Saskatoon, as the larger town is building all around them. These suburbs have schools and churches of their own, as well as populations of a considerable size, and not a few business establishments. In the case of Nutana, the school building, erected at a cost of about eight thousand dollars, is really a credit to the province; and the old Methodist church in the same village is the pioneer church of Saskatoon. Further, it is felt that the addition to the townsite of the beautiful Nutana hill, overlooking the Saskatchewan river, will mean a great acquisition to Saskatoon.



A Traffic Bridge Costing \$100,000 is to Replace the Ferry. Appropriation is granted, Plans are Ready, and Tenders are now Called for by the Provincial Government of Saskatchewan

council has set itself as being of prime importance is that of drainage and sewerage. Possessed of unusual advantages in a sanitary way, the council has the support of the citizens in their firm resolution not to abuse the privileges granted them by Nature, but rather to make the most of them. Bordered on at least three sides by the Saskatchewan, and elevated a considerable height above it, drainage becomes a comparatively easy matter, and in order to perfect what nature has so kindly begun, the council are ready to undertake a system of drainage and sewerage which, when completed, will have cost them about twenty thousand dollars. This will be begun as soon as the opening of spring will allow.

In connection with this undertaking it is of extreme interest to know that it is the intention of the council to pay for this improvement without the issue of debentures and out of the general taxes. The council is actuated by this commendable motive of keeping down the debenture indebtedness of the town. At present, this indebtedness amounts to less than twenty-four thousand

high, and the proposal was not accepted. On the other hand, Engineer Chipman, of Toronto, has been instructed to go into the question fully of supplying Saskatoon with electric light, waterworks and power for industrial purposes. Whichever method is ultimately adopted it is evident from the very serious consideration which the question is receiving on the part of the council, that the electric lighting of the streets, houses and business establishments of Saskatoon will not long be deferred.

Perhaps the next questions in order of importance at present agitating the minds of the town fathers are those of annexation of suburbs and incorporation as a city. The two questions are inter-related, the latter, indeed, depending on the former. There are two suburbs to Saskatoon which are in every sense of the word "suburbs"—that is to say they are not merely "additions" due to the colonizing policy of real estate agents, but are inhabited villages with a location and a name all their own. One of these, Riversdale, on the west side of the present town of Saskatoon, and indeed so

As the immediate sequel to the annexation of these suburbs, and indeed part and parcel with it, is the question of incorporation as the city of Saskatoon and the important matter of the city's charter. Already the petitions for annexation have been fully signed by the electors of the different districts affected, and the bill will be presented at the first session of the provincial parliament. It is intended that the city charter shall be modelled after those of the most modern and up-to-date cities; and for this purpose the skill of the best municipal lawyers in Canada has been called in to assist. The jurisdiction of the council will be made as wide as possible, and provision will be made for the management of public works by a board of commissioners, and power will be secured to the city to own and operate all municipal franchises.

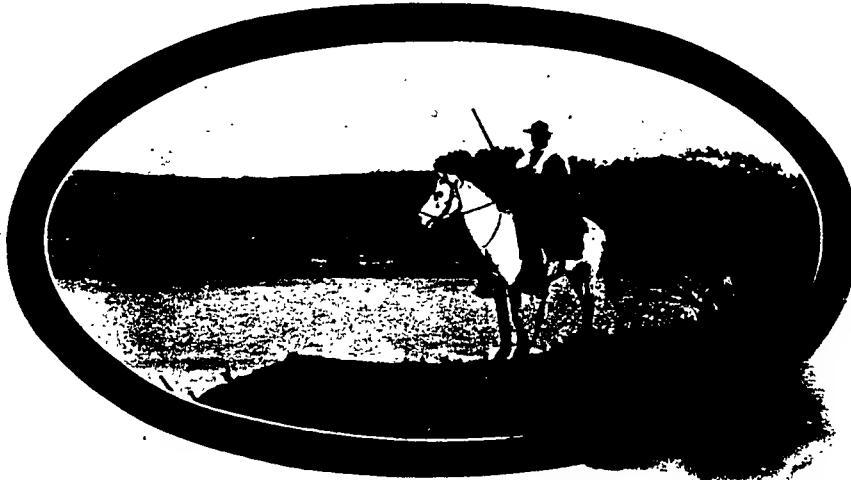
Another question which is thrust before the public and which also has close connection with the matter of the annexation of the suburb of Nutana, is the erection of a traffic bridge over the Saskatchewan. At present, the only bridge is that of the

Canadian Pacific railway. It is a fine structure, especially as restored during the past year after the wash-out of last spring. But it is entirely restricted to the uses of the railway company, and communication between Nutana and Saskatoon is kept up during the open season of the river by means of a ferry running on a cable from shore to shore and propelled by the force of the stream. Sufficient as this was in days gone by, both town and village have now grown beyond it, and a traffic bridge is an immediate necessity. Already a promise has been secured that such a bridge will at once be constructed by the provincial government. It will cost a large number of

are in the hose house one thousand feet of hose, and three large water tanks twenty-four feet in depth, by twelve feet in diameter, are placed in different parts of the town and are accessible from any part of it. The headquarters of the fire brigade are in a substantial fire hall, built of cement blocks. In the lower storey of this building is the council chamber, where the town fathers meet in consultation. Alongside of the fire hall stands the hose tower and the belfry, from whence the town bell rings out the hours or gives the alarm of fire.

At some future time it may become a very important question whether or not the Saskatchewan river could not at this point

with us. Forty-five members of the convention accepted the invitation and remained with us from Saturday until Monday. The occasion was an enjoyable one for the citizens of Saskatoon, and judging by results it seems to have helped us greatly, for even before leaving the town quite a number of these visiting gentlemen made investments in town property, and since then they have advertised us among their friends. Many of them testified to their surprise at finding such possibilities in the midst of the prairie, and declared that there was not another townsite in Saskatchewan that possessed anything like the same beauty of situation or so central a location.



Before Hard Wheat Became King

thousands, but it is an absolute necessity and must come, and in convenience it would pay for itself in a few years.

Waterworks are one of the public improvements which the council will be obliged to face in the very near future. Even at the present time it is only kept in the background by the pressure of more momentous questions, and even in spite of other questions it is constantly thrusting itself to the fore. It is a matter which Saskatoon, on account of its situation on this magnificent river, should find less difficulty in handling than the question usually presents. And the council and business men of Saskatoon may be depended upon to make the very most of this situation and to lose no unnecessary time in the installation of a complete system of waterworks. Indeed, it must be remembered that this is one of the matters upon which a fully qualified engineer is even now preparing a report.

Telephone accommodation is not, properly speaking, an affair of the municipality, and yet it is of a sufficiently public nature to be taken up at this point. There are upwards of two hundred telephone patrons in Saskatoon, and the lines are the property of the Saskatchewan Telephone and Electric Company.

The council have not been neglectful of their duty in providing such fire protection as will suffice until a perfect system of waterworks becomes a reality. At the present time the town owns a gasoline engine which will throw a stream of water through a hose sixty feet high. In addition to this a chemical engine has been secured and will soon be in its place. There

be dammed for the purpose of developing power for all kinds of manufacturing industries. Power there certainly is here, for the current of the river is very swift, and the volume of water, even at low water, is very large. There is no question about the power. All that is wanting is that the country west of us be sufficiently developed so as to make the damming of the river a profitable undertaking. When this is the case the waters of the Saskatchewan may be utilized in turning the driving wheels of many large manufacturing establishments that shall supply the wants of the thousands and tens of thousands of our fellow countrymen to the west of us.

When the advantages and possibilities of Saskatoon's situation are then set before us in attractive array, we are filled with wonder that such unusual opportunities have been set down in the midst of the vast region of prairie country. Indeed, it comes upon nearly every one who visits our city as a matter of surprise. They had not looked for this beauty, they had not looked for such resources, they had not dreamed of so excellent a situation for a great and populous commercial centre as they found in Saskatoon. This was very evident from the visit to our town on the 3rd of July last of a large number of the delegates to the convention of the western boards of trade which was held in Regina. Our present mayor, James Clinksell, and two other of our leading citizens were the delegates from Saskatoon. Through them an invitation was extended from the town to all the delegates to come to Saskatoon. The board of trade of our city bore the entire expense and banqueted the visiting delegates while

Farming Around Saskatoon

Western Canada is first, last and always a farming country. She is proud of it; it is both her pride and her good fortune. Where agriculture is the predominating industry, wealth is always more evenly distributed, and the lives of the people are healthier and happier and better than where they are huddled together in the unhealthy environment of a crowded city. And throughout the new provinces of the west are wide areas of the best farm land in the world. And it is here ready waiting for the plough. It is not with the present generation as it was with our fathers, who cleared off the enormous forests in the east before they could get at the land. Here nature has left the very best of soil clear so far as forests are concerned, as though she herself had kept the garden here. Indeed, "these are the unshorn fields, boundless and beautiful." For the practical farmer, therefore, there is no greater inducement in the world than to come west. The only question for him to ask and answer is, where can he find the best value for his money? Where can he get the greatest returns for his labor?

Now, the district of Saskatoon does not lay claim to being the only good agricultural region in Saskatchewan. We believe the whole of Saskatchewan is hard to beat. But Saskatoon does claim to be as good a farming country as there is beneath the sun, and better than many that are famous because long known. In a double sense Saskatoon is an agricultural centre. In the first place, she is the gateway to the vast Saskatchewan valley, a region many times greater in extent than the famous Red River valley. It is possible that there is not in the whole world a larger continuous stretch of fertile, first-class agricultural land than that which reposes in the basin of this far-reaching, mighty river and its thousand tributaries. In the second place, Saskatoon has in her own immediate neighborhood a tract of land unsurpassed anywhere in the west—land which has produced the best quality of hard wheat, and the cleanest wheat, in quantities which in other regions are unknown.

The soil, as is general over the prairies, is the black alluvial soil from which the best results are always obtained. In places it becomes lighter, but loses nothing in strength or fertility, but is more easily worked. We have none of the heavy, gummy clay common in some parts, the working of which is extremely difficult, so much so as to make the occupation of farming far less pleasant as well as far less profitable. The soil of Saskatoon district

SASKATOON—THE HUB OF THE

is easily worked, and the yield cannot be surpassed anywhere. Wheat runs from 25 to 45 bushels to the acre, and one farmer, Mr. T. A. Marr, had 48 and a fraction bushels of wheat on one piece of new land not long ago. His average crop of wheat all round for that year was 33 bushels to the acre.

And wheat growing is the great pursuit of farming here. It is a wheat country more than anything else. While coarser grains will grow, they are not given the same opportunity because wheat is so much the more profitable. So true is this that not a bushel of any other kind of grain left his market for the outside world last year. Half a million bushels of wheat were marketed, but of other grains nothing left the station. Indeed scarcely enough is grown for home consumption. And yet oats will yield here from sixty-five to one hundred bushels; barley from forty to sixty-five, and occasionally even more; flax, from fifteen to twenty-five bushels. Potatoes, too, yield from three hundred to six hundred bushels to the acre. Wheat, however, is the stand-by, and Saskatoon has wheat on every side of it. This can be said of very few centres in the west so truly as it can be said of Saskatoon. Usually there is a lake, or a mountain, or a morass, or a slough, or a tract of alkali; but in Saskatoon's environment there is nothing but a wheat lands stretching for hundreds of miles north, south and east, and west. Again we remind you that she is the very centre of the great Canadian wheat country.

Climate!—that word that means so much to every mortal; that thing—that one thing—which is subject to the criticism of every Tom, Dick, Harry, Bill, Jim, Jack and Joe that ever lived. Talk about being in the

public eye; climate is the only thing that ever was there. It has to please everybody—it is the only thing in creation that every man ever born is unreasonable enough to suppose ought to please everybody. And once in a great while it succeeds; and one of the places where it succeeds most frequently is in the central city of the great west, Saskatoon. Really, it is a glorious climate, summer or winter. I could not speak as I do if it were not; it is the climate which has made me "feel good" at this moment. Describe it, I cannot; only I know that a day or two ago I was admiring a beautiful array of sun dogs which followed old king Sol on his morning excursion towards the zenith. Opinions differ as to the meaning of those celestial canine beauties. Being somewhat of a dog-fancier I have given some thought to the subject, and my conclusion is that they indicate the coming of mild weather—not the reverse as so many people testify. It is true they are seldom seen except in clear, cold, frosty weather, and regarding the present their meaning may be the presence of cold; but so far as they are prognosticators they foretell finer and milder weather. Being much of the rainbow nature, and certainly containing the element of promise, "They are Heaven's way of letting us down easy during a cold snap, by assuring us, in this beautiful and graceful way, that a good time is coming soon and the cold will shortly pass away."

Yes, this is the home of clear, exhilarating weather in the winter time, with fine sunny days, and a sufficient amount of moisture for good crops mixed in, in the summer. In spring the prairie is clad with the grandeur and growth of the crocus and anemone; in the autumn—the pleasantest season of the year—the whole land is re-

joicing in the genial sunshine of Indian summer and the songs of harvest home. For health of body and mind and spirit there is no finer climate in the world than that of central Saskatchewan.

Other considerations of importance to the farmers are those of water and fuel. Besides the noble Saskatchewan, the lord of all the western streams, man nor beast shall never suffer from thirst. Flowing down at a rapid rate from the Rocky Mountains far away, it is clear and cold, and brings to the warm soil of the prairie the refreshing coolness of the snowy western peaks. And all the land for miles on either side of this favoring stream affords good well water in abundance. A depth of ten feet is often sufficient, and rarely more than thirty or thirty-five are required, to provide an inexhaustible supply of the very best of pure water at the homestead door. As for fuel, coal is the coming staple in this direction. At present there is wood in the bluffs which are scattered over the prairie, and all along the river banks. But even now good coal is being imported from the coalfields of the west, and as soon as the railroads build across country this necessary article will be bought at a considerably reduced rate.

The type of farmers who have come to this district is both a compliment to the district itself and an inducement to other farmers of the best type to come here and make their home among them. A live, progressive man does not wish to settle in a community where his neighbors are dull, backward and lacking in present-day common sense and intelligence. He wants live neighbors who want to live and let live, and who will help each other to make the very most of the blossoming opportunities and numberless advantages of their common



The J. J. Caswell Stock Farm, Now Owned by J. C. Drinkle & Co., Saskatoon.

home. Such is the class to which the farmers who have settled in this region belong. Some of these farmers brought a good deal with them, but with the enlarged opportunities of a prairie farm they were not slow to obtain better machinery and improved equipment. Walking plows have been abandoned for the gang; the two and three horse harrow for that requiring four. Nothing less than an eight-foot binder will do a man who has taken one crop off his farm here. The demand for seed drills is on the increase. Last year one agent alone sold eight carloads of machinery. — He found that collections were easily made. The coming year he has every assurance that business will be even better. Another agent sold over two hundred drills last year and during the harvest one hundred and seventy-five binders.

The testimony of the farmers themselves who are settled throughout the country might here be quoted, but there is such a plethora of material from them, and all in the same highly complimentary strain that it has almost become a drug on the market. It is difficult to make selections. I visited a large number of the farmers in this neighborhood recently, and enquired about their experiences. From one and all the testimony was the same. They wouldn't leave their happy homes for love or money; and they have never known what genuine success in life was until they came to this country.

Of course we have been speaking chiefly of wheat and grain farming, but it must be borne in mind that mixed farming is indulged in by most of the farmers here, the respective proportions of cattle and grain varying according to taste. But there is a ready sale for beef and it brings a big figure, while cattle raising affords a profitable occupation for the farmer during the winter months. Horses and cattle here can run out in the open all winter long, find their own fodder in the prairie grass beneath the shallow snow, and in the spring are in the best of order. Very often the cattle raised are of the very best breeds, and this neighborhood can show some of the prettiest herds of Shorthorns, Herefords and other breeds to be seen in Canada.

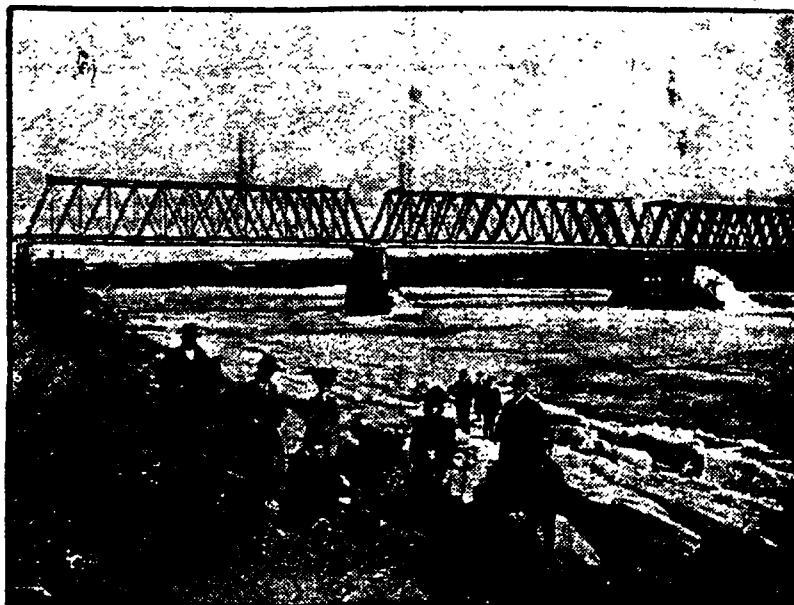
One of the features that must forcibly appeal to every man thinking of obtaining a home in the west is the desirability of being near a large town which will afford him both a good market for his produce and a better opportunity of making a selection when he has purchases to make. Such advantages must necessarily accrue to the settler near Saskatoon, which already, though far from having reached the limit of its development, possesses many of the luxuries of a large city.

And among the conveniences of the place, and one which is of the very greatest moment to the farmer, is a first-class, up-to-date flour mill. This mill, owned and operated by Messrs. Leslie & Wilson, has a capacity of 100 barrels a day. The mill ships to points all along the Prince Albert branch of the Canadian Pacific and also along the Canadian Northern, and customers in British Columbia are supplied with the famous Champion brand of flour. The firm also are even now prepared to enlarge their mill as other railways run out into the country through this point; and it is their intention to build elevators at different points along these various lines. The excellent quality of the flour manufactured here, which has gained for it its enviable

place in the homes of northern and central Saskatchewan, is due to the good quality of the wheat of this district, which is clean and hard. As the firm deal in grain as well as manufacture flour, there is an elevator with a capacity of 25,000 bushels in connection with the mill. In the town there are, also three other elevator companies operating—the Western, the North Star, and the Canadian—and these, with the mill elevator, have a combined capacity of a good deal over 100,000 bushels. It is acknowledged that this is insufficient capacity for the amount of wheat shipped from this point, which for the crop of 1905 has already amounted to little short of half a million bushels. But other elevator companies are even now preparing to come

build branch lines all through this country, east and west, and both our other Canadian transcontinental roads are anxious to get a foothold, and are getting it.

Speaking of present accommodation and railway matters generally, Saskatoon's place was to some extent assured to her by the fact that she was the only divisional point between Regina and Prince Albert. But as a shipping centre she has far outgrown the facilities which she has possessed since 1890 as a divisional point. The result is that the company will at once tear down its houses and build greater. At present the round-house has four stalls, but it is necessary at once to make arrangements for housing from eight to ten engines, one of which will be a yard engine, which it is



C.P.R. Railway Bridge, Saskatoon

in and do business. The difficulty and reason for their delay has been the problem of ground room; but the railway yards are expected to be moved and very greatly enlarged during the coming summer, and then this difficulty can be satisfactorily and permanently adjusted.

Railways—Present and to Come

Undoubtedly the most momentous and interesting problem at present engaging the attention of every citizen of Saskatoon is the railway situation. Saskatoon has something even now to boast of in the way of railway prominence and importance. But it is anticipated that all that the past has given her in this way is as nothing compared with what is to come.

In 1890 the Qu'Appelle, Long Lake and Saskatchewan Navigation Company built the line of railway extending from Regina to Prince Albert, which soon after came under the control of the Canadian Pacific. In those days a subsidy of eight thousand dollars a year from the Dominion Government was supposed to be necessary to put the road on a paying basis to the operators. It certainly did put it on such a basis. To-day the Canadian Pacific are willing to

purposed to send hither in the spring.

Some idea of the importance of the Canadian Pacific to Saskatoon may be gathered from the fact that eight or ten engineers have their houses here, in the station house and freight sheds there is a staff of seven men in addition to Mr. Alexander St. Laurent, the master. There are two gangs of section men in the city, consisting of a foreman and four men each. Taken altogether, the pay-roll at this point is on the average over the year, about ten thousand dollars per month. The revenue of the office in freight reaches the very respectable figures of something between thirty thousand and forty thousand dollars per month for incoming freight; and between five thousand and twenty-five thousand per month or an average of about fifteen thousand the year round for outgoing freight.

The wheat shipments—and practically no other grain is shipped from here—since the harvest of 1905 has been little short of five hundred thousand bushels.

Owing to the very great change in conditions around Saskatoon since the building of the railroad in 1890, immediate steps must be taken by the operating company to improve the equipment. Not only will a round-house more than double the capa-

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city of the present one to be erected, but the yards will be extended so as to hold at least 1,000 cars. It is likely that the yards, the round-house and the station will all be moved a few hundred yards west of where they now stand, so as to give more room for sheds of all kinds, and for grain elevators. But it is not merely in the improvement of their yards that progressive work will be undertaken by the company. Already the contract is let for the grading of forty miles east, being the extension of the Canadian Pacific's Pheasant Hill branch, and which gives us connection with the main line of the Canadian Pacific at Kirkella. This will be the short line for this company from Winnipeg to Edmonton, and of this line towards the west thirty-five miles were graded last summer, and the ties and steel rails are now in the yards here ready to be laid as soon as the spring opens up.

So much for the present railway connections—the Canadian Pacific Railway has been good to the people of Saskatoon. "There is no kick coming" on the kind of treatment meted out to the people of this community by the first of Canadian transcontinentals. Sometimes we were a trifle impatient and wanted a few more favors; but we recognize that these things take time—and we recognize, also, the necessity, sometimes, of impatience. Should no further railroading be done in the region of Saskatoon—should no other transcontinental line enter our town limits (which, by the way, is impossible, since they are almost here now)—yet the Canadian Pacific and its Pheasant Hill branch, running east to Kirkella and west to Edmonton, will itself make Saskatoon a town of the first railway magnitude so far as western Canada is concerned. A yard accommodating a thousand cars is evidence of the intention to do some business.

But we have said that other roads are coming. Yes, and not-ordinary roads, but two transcontinentals. The Grand Trunk Pacific has already practically secured its rights of way at no distance from the town. It will be the main line of the Grand Trunk Pacific, too—not merely a branch. The Canadian Northern now passes through Warman, a few miles north of the town, and we have the promise of their building a branch from Clarksboro, about twelve miles distant, to this place, the first piece of railroad construction that will be done in the spring. There cannot be the least doubt about this promise being faithfully fulfilled, for any railway company would find it profitable to build several times that amount of road, were it only for the sake of the lumber trade alone of a town the size of Saskatoon. Further, the Canadian Pacific will undoubtedly bring in a branch from the Quill Lake country connecting us with their Yorkton and Prince Albert branch. When all these roads are constructed we shall have five lines entering our city from the south and east, namely, the Regina and Prince Albert branch of the Canadian Pacific from Regina; the Pheasant Hill branch of the Canadian Pacific from Kirkella; the Quill Lake branch of the Canadian Pacific giving us connection with Yorkton; the Canadian Northern branch from Clarksboro; and lastly, passing just immediately south of the town, and crossing the river within the city limits, the main line of the new transcontinental—the Grand Trunk-Pacific. The further extension of these lines beyond Saskatoon

will also connect us with other important points west and north. The Canadian Northern branch will be extended south and west through the Goose Lake country to Calgary; the Pheasant Hill extension of the Canadian Pacific will connect with the Edmonton branch at Wetaskiwin, and we shall have direct communication with Edmonton over the main line of both the Canadian Northern and the Grand Trunk Pacific.

Such is the vast network of railways of which Saskatoon must almost inevitably be the centre, just as she is the geographical centre of the province, of the prairies and of the Canadian west. And let it be remembered that these railways are not supposititious, but already some of them are graded and the material for their completion is in the railway yards; for others the contracts for construction have been let, while for others we have the charters, the assurance of the principal men of the respective companies, and finally the fact that the rights of way have actually been secured.

Thus it is seen that the three great trunk lines operating in the west will enter Saskatoon and this is the only city between Portage la Prairie and Edmonton of which this can be said. It would indeed be well if the influence of the railway commission could be brought to bear upon the different companies to induce them to erect union-stations at points where they compete. The convenience to the public would certainly be sufficiently great to justify it, and some day when we get a little more light it must inevitably come.

With such railway connection as these which we have just reviewed, it is evident that as a wholesale centre Saskatoon will have very special advantages: indeed, it may truly be said that no other city in the west will have so large a region tributary to her, for, Saskatoon is surrounded on every side by a country which will be teeming with people, and dotted all over with smaller cities, towns and villages. For all of these Saskatoon with her many arms of railway will be the natural wholesale centre.

A Few of the Officials

One of the most conspicuous characteristics of the business men of Saskatoon is their disinterested loyalty not only to the town itself, but to each other, and a stranger cannot be long a visitor in Saskatoon without becoming impressed by the excellent spirit which prevails among these gentlemen. That spirit shows itself in the progressive and liberal way in which they conduct their town, and also in the enlightened manner in which they go about it.

In none of our citizens is this more conspicuous than in him who at the present time occupies the mayoralty chair—Mr. James Clinkskill, general merchant. Mr. Clinkskill is a son of Glasgow, Scotland. He was educated in Glasgow and afterwards at Madras College, St. Andrew's. He came to this country in 1882, and in July of that year entered into a partnership with Mr. Mahaffy, and together they started for Prince Albert for the purpose of opening a general store. They shipped their goods from Winnipeg to go down the Red river into Lake Winnipeg and then up the Saskatchewan to Prince Albert. The Saskatchewan, however, was so low that year that the goods did not arrive until

the following summer. In the fall of 1883 he and his partner left Prince Albert for Battleford and had only got nicely started in business when the rebellion broke out. All the whites were driven into the barracks, and here Mr. Clinkskill and his family took refuge one Sunday morning. Two days later the Indians went through his house and destroyed everything they did not carry away. They also burned his store and Mr. Clinkskill lost everything he had.

After the rebellion, however, he and his partner started business again in the new town of those days, but which is now the old town, or the present South Battleford. Here the firm prospered until finally, in 1896, Mr. Mahaffy withdrew from the business. Two years later Mr. Clinkskill opened a branch in Saskatoon, buying out the business of our present enterprising milling firm, Leslie & Wilson. In the meantime, however, Mr. Clinkskill had been elected to the first legislature of the Northwest Territories, in the Conservative interests, as representative of Battleford. This was in 1888 and for ten years he represented that constituency. In 1902, having already resided in Saskatoon for four years, he was elected to the same house for this town and district which he continued to represent until the erection of the new provinces. At the beginning of the present year he was elected to the office of mayor.

Mr. Clinkskill's predecessor in office was another of the successful merchants of Saskatoon, namely Mr. M. Isbister. Mr. Isbister also is a native of Scotland, coming originally from the Orkney Islands. He came to Canada with his parents and settled near Galt, Ont., in 1857. Later the family moved to Huron county where Mr. Isbister received most of his education and where he afterwards taught school, having taken a professional teacher's training at the Normal in Toronto. Giving up school teaching he went to Petrolia, where he was engaged in business for five years, after which he went to Port Arthur and received the experience of yet another semi-decade in the sphere of trade and commerce. But Port Arthur was not sufficiently "west" for Mr. Isbister, and in 1889 he came to Manitoba, going into business and doing well until in 1903 they all came from Saskatoon and he resorted hither. He showed more confidence in Saskatoon than many of his fellow citizens did and was one of the first, if not the first, to build on Second Avenue, which has since become the principal business street of the town. His store is one of the very best, both from point of size and equipment, in the place. Mr. Isbister was mayor of Saskatoon in 1905 and his term of office was marked by faithful and efficient service.

Of Mr. James R. Wilson, the first mayor of Saskatoon after its incorporation in 1903, and still a most zealous member of the council, we have already spoken in another place. Mr. Wilson is a native of Ontario, having first seen the light near Almonte. He has been in the west since 1883, when his father brought the family to this country and settled near Dundurn, not many stations from this place on the Prince Albert branch of the Canadian Pacific. On leaving home Mr. Wilson lived for a couple of years in Moose Jaw, after which he spent one year on a homestead in North Dakota. Being too much of a Canadian for this he returned to Canada, and was en-

gaged in railway contracting on this branch of the Canadian Pacific. Ranching then engaged his attention for four years, until he went into partnership with his present partner, Mr. Jas. Leslie, as general merchant. They erected the first store in what is Saskatoon proper to-day. Here they were thrust into the grain business for Saskatoon district could not help producing wheat and yet there was no one to buy it. Mr. Wilson and his partner took hold and the grain business grew so rapidly that finally they sold out their mercantile business to engage in milling and the grain business only. Previous to the incorporation of Saskatoon as a town, Mr. Wilson had been appointed official overseer. Upon incorporation therefore in July, 1903, he was elected by acclamation to the position of the first mayor of Saskatoon.

Having made mention of the trio of chief magistrates of our town, the next to attract our attention is the honorable member of the provincial parliament who represents Saskatoon, Mr. W. C. Sutherland. Of Mr. Sutherland also we have already made some mention, and now only add a few particulars. By birth he comes from the township of Zorra, in Oxford county, Ontario, whence many of Canada's professional men have gone forth to make their names well known. As a young man, Mr. Sutherland attended high school in Orangeville and then went to the model in Kincardine. After a season of teaching he went to McGill, and on graduating from that institution came west to Manitoba, studied law and practised for several years in Carman. In 1902, however, Saskatoon proved sufficiently attractive to draw him away from a lucrative practice, and since coming here prosperity has made him her special favorite. He has been eminently successful in the transaction of business for the Saskatchewan Valley Land Company, and a few months ago, when a standard bearer was wanted for the Liberal party in the provincial election, every circumstance indicated that Mr. Sutherland was the man, and it turned out to be eminently true for, through an honorable fight, in which Dr. Munro of this town was his opponent, he carried the colors of his party to victory.

The president of the board of trade is Mr. F. R. Oliver. His native county is Hastings, Ontario, his home being near Tweed. Educated at the Belleville high school and the Ontario Business College of that city, Mr. Oliver started out to teach school, but there was not enough real business in that profession. At once on finding out his liking he entered the employ of the Percival Plough and Stove Company, of Merrickville, Ontario, with whom he remained fourteen years until he had received all the promotion that could come from that quarter. Having reached the top of the ladder, he took a jump and lit in the west. After looking over the entire country from Winnipeg to the mountains, he became convinced that Saskatoon was the most likely place for opportunities such as a business man wanted and he stayed right here. When he saw it first the town had a population of one hundred and fifty people, but he could see the future or at least a part of it. He at once entered into the hardware and furniture business, and his business has grown with the town. For municipal politics Mr. Oliver has no taste, but board of trade affairs appeal to him, and he is forever on their track, and in a

large measure the credit is due to him for many of the concessions and favors which have been extended to us by the railway companies.

One other eminently efficient servant of the local public comes in for consideration here, and that is the chairman of the school board, Mr. J. E. Paul. The office held by Mr. Paul is one of almost equal importance with that of the mayor, if we consider the amount of money expended by the representative bodies over which they preside. The work of the school board has been particularly onerous in Saskatoon owing to the exceedingly rapid rate of growth and the resulting obligation on the part of the board to supply a constantly increasing amount of school-room accommodation. From one teacher in one school five years ago to eleven in five schools at the present time is the growth which the board has been called upon to meet. In the execution of this task Mr. Paul has taken a big hand, and this year he acts in the capacity of chairman.

Mr. Paul is a native of Perth county, Ontario, his early home having been near Listowel. In Listowel, too, he received his education, and in Listowel he first went into business. For five years he engaged in mercantile pursuits in the east and then came west and located at Virden. After two years there he started a business in Griswold, where he remained for five years until coming to Saskatoon two years ago. Not only is Mr. Paul chairman of the school board, but he is a business man in a large way—the firm of Speer & Paul, to which he belongs, being one of the busiest and most respected firms in our city.

*Saskatoon Newspapers

One of the most important features of a modern town is a popular and well conducted newspaper, edited by a live, open-eyed, forcible and tactful editor. Saskatoon has a news medium of its own of which it has good reason to be proud; for it stands well to the fore among the papers of the west. The Phoenix is a twelve or fourteen page weekly, and the whole matter-of-its contents is set up in the office here. Ready prints and boiler plates are not used in it at all. The present editor, who is also proprietor, has been quite able to do without cheap material of that kind; and the life of Saskatoon and the surrounding country has been sufficiently brisk and stirring, and the support of the Phoenix readers and of the citizens of Saskatoon generally has been sufficiently encouraging to enable the editor to secure material of a very much higher and more interesting type.

When a reader picks up the Phoenix he is struck first of all by the clean appearance of the sheet, its clear, strong type, and the orderly arrangement of its contents. On opening up the inside page he is struck with the amount of written material prepared by its own editorial staff. He can also see, however, that the paper is well patronized by the local advertisers among the western merchants and real estate men.

Here let me say a word about the present editor—Mr. J. A. Aikin, M.A.—for he

* The Phoenix on April 7th appeared as a daily. On May 12th the Saskatoon Capital—a three-times-a-week newspaper—also began publication.

is the life of the concern both on its editorial and on its business side. Mr. Aikin is a Hamilton boy by birth and was educated in that city and later in the high school of Orangeville. After some experience as a tradesman in Ontario, and for a time in the United States, Mr. Aikin turned his thoughts to higher branches of study and returning to Canada entered Queen's University, Kingston, whence he graduated in 1903, securing first class honors and the gold medal in political science, as well as first class honors in moral philosophy. From the university he went directly to the staff of the Globe, Toronto, and stayed with them until coming west to Saskatoon to take charge of the Phoenix last fall. During the term of his connection with the Globe he wrote the crop letters which were published in that newspaper from different parts of the province of Ontario; and it was while engaged in a similar mission in the west during the summer of 1905 that he saw the opportunities of Saskatoon and determined, when the opening occurred soon after, to buy out the Phoenix in the interests of the Liberal party.



J. A. AIKIN
Editor and Publisher of the "Phoenix"
Saskatoon

Since taking hold of the management of the paper, Mr. Aikin has introduced a good many improvements not only into the published product itself, but into the printing plant from which it emanates. The equipment of the office now consists of an up-to-date monoline machine, two new improved Gordon job presses, and a large news press. Since taking over the plant the present proprietor put out two old job presses and put in the two new Gordons. He has also put in a complete line of new series of job and advertising type. At present the news press is run with the old-type, but a fine new building is contemplated, and when this becomes an accomplished fact, as it will before next fall, a large modern news press will be added, and then the Phoenix office will be the best equipped plant outside of Regina.

SASKATOON—THE HUB OF THE

The new building which is contemplated will be a two-storey stone and brick structure, and will be built for the express purpose of providing a sufficiently commodious and convenient home for the printing of the Phoenix. It will cost over \$10,000 and will be located on the corner of Second Avenue and Twenty-second Street, and will thus be conveniently situated between the proposed Canadian Pacific depot on Twenty-third Street and the business section of Saskatoon, which lies principally along Second Avenue.

One of the features of the Phoenix which we should not neglect to mention here—and it deserves mention, not because other rural papers forget it altogether, for they do not, but because it is so conspicuous in the case of the Phoenix—is the large amount of district news under the head of "Round the Country With the People." There is no rural paper in the west in which this department is really so well managed, or has grown to such proportions.

Inevitably the circulation of such a magazine will grow, and it is a fact that under Mr. Aikin's management and editorship this has been increased rapidly. Not only has it a very large local circulation in Saskatoon and Saskatchewan, but your correspondent has examined the subscription lists and found that a large number of copies go to the British Isles, to the United States and to Ontario. It is thus an excellent medium both for news and advertising; indeed, it is its excellence as a medium of news and of information about Saskatchewan and the west generally which has secured for it its large foreign circulation.

Churches and Schools

It is natural on most occasions to consider these two subjects together, and for us in Saskatoon they have a somewhat similarly progressive history. There are few lines of evidence which we could follow that would show more conclusively the remarkable growth of Saskatoon than the history of our churches and our schools. From very small beginnings we have grown in a few short years into one of the first educational centres of the new provinces, and within the last three years churches have fairly crowded upon us.

Our educational institutions began to bloom early enough in the quondam village of Saskatoon—what is now Nutana. Here for almost two decades one little school with a single teacher alone bore testimony to our innate love of knowledge. Then when the new century broke upon us, and Saskatoon West began to appear, a school was erected in the new town. This little school building still stands, and though it has been twice deserted it has as often come back into service, and each time it has opened its heart to receive the ungrateful and wandering children again, while the board have been most thankful for this kindly spirit and the renewed services of the old stand-by. This old school is built of stone and is good for centuries to come, but it will be one of the landmarks which will speedily pass into the historical department of the Saskatoon museum.

When this old institution and primitive university became too small for the children of our town—and that only required two years—a frame school was erected which provided two rooms, and the old school was deserted entirely. This was in

1903. Before the summer of 1903 was passed, however, another teacher—making three—had to be engaged, and thus the stone school again came into requisition. In 1904 a magnificent brick school was erected at a cost of nearly eighteen thousand dollars, which accommodated four teachers with a large number of pupils. It was thought that this would suffice for a little while, and both the "auld hooses" were now deserted for the new, but by the end of the following summer, in 1905, they had both come back into service, the frame school holding two crowded rooms of pupils with their teachers, and the faith-

In speaking of the enlarging of the Saskatoon public school, it should have been mentioned that the school is so constructed as to permit of the doubling of its capacity without in any way affecting detrimentally either the appearance or the strength and stability of the school. The original plans provided for just such an emergency as this, and the appearance and beauty of the building will really be enhanced, for it will then possess a completeness which is wanting in the present form.*

The work which is taken up in the public school is as high as the second-class, non-professional, teacher's certificate, but it is



Presbyterian Church, Saskatoon

ful, old, stone school, honored once more in its premature old age, housed a crowd of noisy youngsters whom, I suppose, we shall have to call its great, great grandchildren. Thus, without considering old Saskatoon, or Nutana, there are in Saskatoon proper seven teachers; and once again all the school capacity in sight has proved too small and at once the board have to undertake the enlarging of their fine brick building at a new cost of ten thousand dollars. This will be done this summer and will give accommodation for four rooms more. In the meantime, without waiting for this building, two other teachers will be employed as soon as room can be secured. And all this development has occurred since the building of the old stone school in 1901. Nor has notice been taken of the growth in Nutana and in Riversdale. In the former suburb a new cement brick school was erected in 1905 at a cost of nine thousand dollars. It is a stately building with several rooms well lighted and airy, and on the southeast corner of the building a tower rises a considerable height above the roof and, on account both of its own height and the high ground on which Nutana is built, it can be seen for many miles throughout the surrounding country. In Riversdale, too, the growth has exceeded the capacity of the schools, and an additional room will be added to their accommodation this summer.

expected that with the addition of another teacher for high school subjects and other arrangements which will be made, all the regular branches of high school work can be pursued in another year. The head master of the public schools at present is Mr. H. M. Barrett, B.A., a graduate of Toronto University, who has seen service on the staff of the Collegiate Institutes of Windsor and Owen Sound, Ontario.

The Saskatoon school board are an educated, enlightened and progressive body of men who are heartily in sympathy with each other in the task which they have undertaken of guiding the destinies of the educational institutions of our town. Of Mr. J. E. Paul, the efficient chairman, we have already spoken in another place. The secretary-treasurer, who is the only paid officer of the board, is Mr. Wm. P. Bate, who for three years has acted in this capacity. Mr. Bate is an Englishman by birth having been born in London and educated in London and Bath. In 1886 he came to Canada, coming straight to Saskatoon. He homesteaded just two miles from the town, and remained on his farm until 1898, when he went to Toronto, where he remained, acting in the capacity of a commercial traveller, for a space of almost two years. In 1899 he returned to his farm, where he

* An architect is now at work on plans for an eight-room brick school for Riversdale. May, 1906.

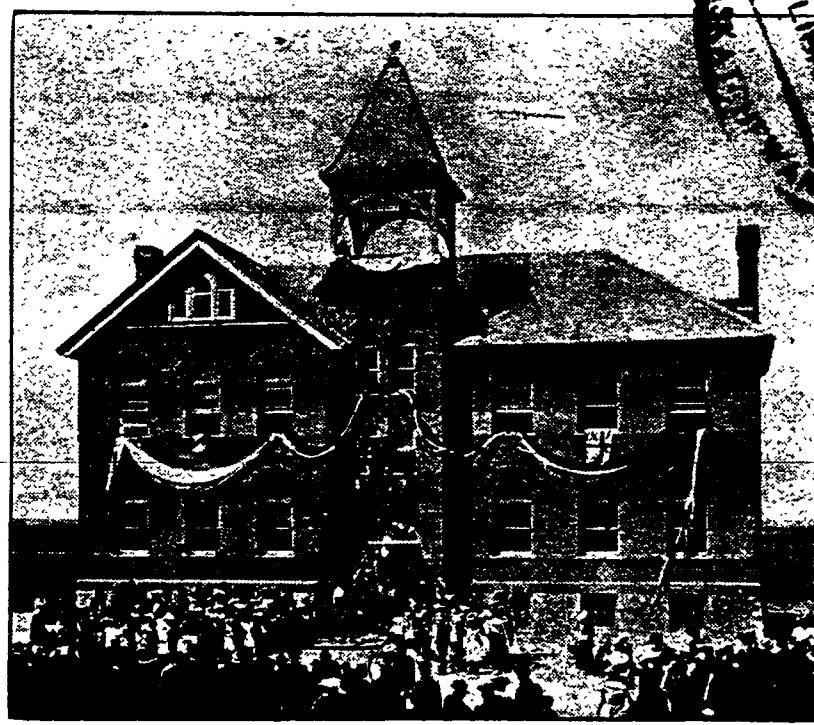
HARD-WHEAT BELT—WESTERN CANADA.

remained until he moved into town in 1903, since which time he has acted as secretary-treasurer of the board.

There are four trustees, about two of whom—Mr. A. E. Young, the treasurer of the board of trade, and Mr. D. T. Smith, the town solicitor—we have spoken elsewhere. Two remain, Dr. Willoughby and Alex. St. Laurent. Dr. Willoughby is one of the old timers here, having been on the medical staff of the Canadian militia at the time of the rebellion in 1885. Immediately after that event he opened a store in old Saskatoon, practised medicine, was local postmaster, and in other prominent ways identified himself with the life of the place. Early in the nineties, however, he went to Regina, where he practised successfully for several years, and then went extensively into ranching. When the days of Saskatoon's greatness began to dawn he returned to us again. He owned a fine residence just west of the town and here, on his half section, he went into the raising of thoroughbred cattle, and was the possessor of one of the finest herds of Shorthorns in the country. With this beautiful home, however, he has recently parted possession, and at present he is residing in Toronto.

Mr. Alex. St. Laurent is the popular and liberal minded man who oversees the general business of the Canadian Pacific railway at this point. He was born at Rimouski, in Quebec province, and educated at the college in that city. After spending a couple of years in business with his father he began railroading by entering into the service of the Intercolonial. This was in 1884. In 1886 he came west and was located by the Canadian Pacific at different places along their line between Fort William and Winnipeg. In 1898 he came to Moose Jaw and remained on the main line until 1890 when he came to the Regina and Prince Albert branch, being appointed first to Duck Lake and then in the fall of 1891 to Saskatoon. At the time of his coming to West Saskatoon there were but two buildings there—the barracks of the mounted police and a boarding house.

Just as Nutana was the site of our first school building, so was it the site of our first little church. The exact date of the



Public School, Saskatoon

laying of the foundation stone of the little Methodist church here is lost in the obscurity of the past. But the building still stands—and is still in use—as a monument of the fervent religious zeal of our early citizens. It is the only church in Nutana, as the large growth in the new town and its spacious religious edifices made further church building there unnecessary for the time being.

In the new town, or Saskatoon proper, all the principal religious denominations are represented. The first congregation to set about the task of building were the Presbyterians who five years ago, 1901, erected what is still a part of their present handsome church. In two years this struc-

ture proved far too small and in 1903 its capacity had to be more than doubled and the present building was the result. This is capable of holding five hundred and fifty people, and is built in the shape of a cross. Since the enlargement of the church it was found that still greater accommodation was required on occasions, and for that reason a new and separate building was put up and is known as Knox hall. This hall will itself seat two hundred people, and is fitted up with kitchen and other necessary rooms for socials and mid-week gatherings of all kinds. The Methodist church is a brick structure with a good appearance, and by its side stands the parsonage. The basement of the church has been fitted up as an assembly room and gymnasium by the Young Men's Club of the town; and the auditorium of the church has a seating capacity of at least four hundred. The pastor is Mr. M. M. Bennett, B.A.

The church of the Anglican congregation has a seating capacity of two hundred and fifty and Mr. Cole is the minister in charge. The Baptists and the Roman Catholics also have comfortable church buildings, each holding at least two hundred. The Salvation Army are gaining strength and a year ago erected, at a cost of three thousand dollars, a very neat, comfortable barracks which will seat upwards of one hundred and fifty.

The churches are all well attended, and although throughout the week the town is the scene of hustling life in every quarter, on Sunday all is quiet and the sanctity of the day is preserved. A most friendly spirit exists between the different denominations and they are always ready to assist each other in any way in their power. Entertainments given by one are always attended by the best people of the others. In the matter of music a good impression is made upon a visitor to any of the churches, and in the case of the Presbyterian church in particular, as the majority of the members of the choir are paid vocalists.



Methodist Church, Saskatoon

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Saskatoon Societies and Sports

The fraternal societies are well represented and even better supported in Saskatoon. In the top place for strength and popularity stands the Saskatchewan Lodge of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of which Mr. Alexander St. Laurent, of the Canadian Pacific station, is at present worshipful master. Following the Masons as a close second comes the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and among the other societies having lodges here are both the Independent and the Canadian Orders of Foresters, the St. Andrew's Society, and the Sons of England, the Loyal Orange Lodge and the Knights of Pythias. In addition to these orders of the fraternal class are several other societies whose objects are social, musical, athletic and literary. The British Colonial Club is essentially a social organization, composed of old country Englishmen. It is fairly strong and is growing in popularity. The Young Men's Club, which is now in its second year, began its career as an athletic organization, but its constitution permitted of expansion to incorporate other ideas, and the literary side of its character is growing quickly, not, however, to the exclusion of the athletic; rather the two features of the club's life and purposes will be promoted and worked out together. A mock parliament has been formed and has already held several successful sessions. The rooms of this club are in the basement of the Methodist church, and have been fitted up for both gymnastic and assembly purposes by the young men of the town. The club is

strictly undenominational and it is hoped it may prove to be the nucleus of a well organized Y.M.C.A., which eventually will possess a large building with gymnasium, baths, reading rooms, lecture rooms and library, as well as accommodation for a limited number of lodgers. In speaking of the British Colonial Club, too, it should have been stated that they are the possessors of elegantly furnished rooms, where at any time the members may resort for social intercourse. During the winter social dances are indulged in, and debates are frequently held among the members, while prominent citizens and visitors are often asked to deliver lectures or addresses. The city can also boast of musical combinations of rather pretentious proportions, the Orchestral Society under the leadership of Mr. John Jackson, and the Saskatoon Choral Society. The former society has already marked the season by giving one concert of a high order, and they may be heard from again before the season is over. Mr. Jackson, the leader, is also the leader of the choir of Knox church in this city, and besides being himself an accomplished violinist, is the head of a musical family who possess gifts of remarkable quality. The Saskatoon Choral Club is also an ambitious organization, and at the present time are at work upon the "Messiah" of Handel with a view to presenting it before the close of the winter.*

*For the past three years there has been a strong and progressive brass band organization in Saskatoon. Mr. F. Surber is the leader. May, 1906.

In the matter of good sportsmanship Saskatoon is also thoroughly alive, and ability in this direction is highly appreciated and amply rewarded. And there is an opening for sportsmen in most games of skill, for all are indulged in here. Just at the present moment, of course, hockey and curling are most in favor, and the combinations in both these lines are of a strong order. The Hockey Club, of which Mr. F. E. Harrison, of the Union Bank, is president, won the championship of the North Saskatchewan Hockey League in 1905. The league included the towns of Prince Albert, Battleford, Rosthern and Saskatoon, and the trophy is a magnificent silver cup. The league is only young yet, this being the second year of its existence. The people of the town support hockey enthusiastically and the team is altogether a home team. No ringers are allowed. The prospects are good for the team bringing home the trophy a second time next spring.

In the matter of curling, there are now twelve rinks, and there would be at least half a dozen more if there were accommodation. From the looks of things this will very shortly be provided. The devotees of the roarin' game are most enthusiastic in their chosen sport and last week two rinks attended the bonspiel in Winnipeg, and one rink attended a similar function in Edmonton. Success and glory has usually attended our curlers wherever they have gone: last year they took nearly all the prizes in the home bonspiel, as well as in that at Rosthern, and this year they took about sixty per cent. of the prizes at Prince Albert.



The Saskatoon Brass Band

During summer, lacrosse, baseball, and lawn tennis divide the attentions of those sportily inclined. In 1903 a lacrosse league was formed for the province of Saskatchewan; the game was liberally supported here and the championship cup came to Saskatoon. In baseball also a league was formed among the neighboring towns and home-and-home games were played. Having

Buildings, Streets and Parks

This is a subject upon which, as yet, nothing definite has been said, and it is of too great importance to be overlooked. We are particularly fond of congratulating ourselves upon the layout of our wide streets and lanes. The avenues run north and south and are three hundred feet apart.

which last material there was any quantity in the valley of the river. The supply of stone is still abundant and no one in Saskatoon builds a house without a solid foundation and a good cellar. Brick and cement blocks can also be secured at reasonable figures as both are manufactured with in one mile of the town. Just north of the town there is a large deposit of clay of the



The Saskatoon Lacrosse Team

many Americans among our citizens it was to be expected that they would liberally support their own peculiar sport, and in this we were not entirely disappointed; but in coming to Canada many of them have become thoroughly naturalized and now prefer and give their support to the two national games of Canada, hockey and lacrosse.

Lawn tennis is very popular in the summer months. The club has a membership of somewhere around forty, and two courts have been laid out with full equipment. Among the members are several good ladies, and with them the game is in high favor. A local tournament was played off last fall, after which silver and gold medals were awarded the winners of the honors.

Among our English citizens cricket is engaged in, and besides all these sports we have had some good exhibitions of horse-racing on the half-mile track in Exhibition Park. On the occasion of the celebration of Dominion Day and the inauguration of the Province of Saskatchewan, on the 3rd of July last, the competition in the horse-racing was open to the province, and a number of liberal prizes were offered.

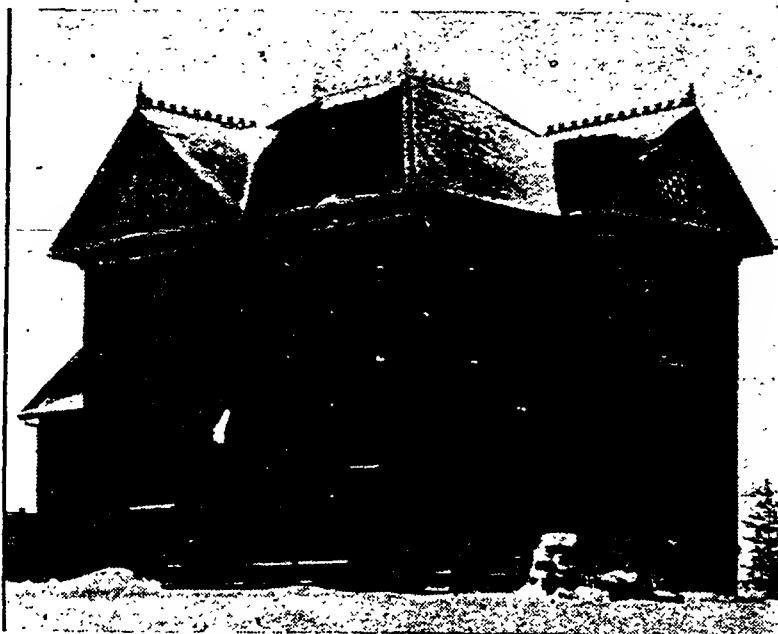
Between them and parallel with them run lanes twenty feet in width. Crossing these at right angles, and at distances of five hundred feet from each other, are the streets. All avenues and streets are ninety-nine feet in width. The advantages of wide streets to a town or city cannot be over-estimated. Sanitation and convenience are both served, and the appearance of both the buildings upon the different sides, and the hurrying business of the street itself is decidedly improved. And in the days when we shall be obliged to have a street car service we shall find the width of our streets will stand us in good stead.

And few cities of the age of Saskatoon can boast buildings of the number and quality which we have here to adorn our streets and avenues and provide accommodation and comfort to our citizens. The first thing about them that strikes the beholder is their general excellence and stability. They are constructed of various kinds of material and it is difficult to say whether lumber, or brick, or cement blocks is the favorite among those who have built most recently. The early houses and stores were built either of timber, or of field stone, of

best quality covering at least twenty acres. Here all the brick that has been used in town has been made. In the matter of cement blocks a syndicate of local men was organized a year ago, for the purpose of manufacturing these and the undertaking has been in every way successful. The cement block manufactured is of the most improved type, with what is known as the staggered air space. The company spent on an average one thousand dollars a month during last season in wages, and thirteen cement block buildings were erected by them, two of which were farm houses. It may also be added that limestone is found in inexhaustible quantities upon the banks of the river and these are buried in the neighborhood, so that every material necessary for building is close at hand and can be secured cheaply.

During the coming season a large amount of building will be undertaken throughout the town. A large number of residences, greater and smaller, are already spoken of, but it is in the business section of the town that work of this kind chiefly attracts attention. Mr. W. H. McBeth, dry goods merchant, will build a fine, large block on

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Residence of W. C. Sutherland, M.L.A., Saskatoon—Taken Before Occupation

Second Avenue, and his near neighbors, Messrs. Oliver and Kempthorn, will enlarge and improve their present extensive premises. The Phoenix Publishing Co. will erect an imposing plant on the corner of Second Avenue and Twenty-second Street; the Canadian Bank of Commerce, a block worthy of that substantial financial institution on the corner of Second Avenue and Twenty-first Street. The National Trust and Loan Company are busy even now preparing the ground for their magnificent forty thousand dollar structure on the corner of Second Avenue and Nineteenth Street, while still another large business block is to be erected on the corner of Second Avenue and Twenty-first Street diagonally opposite the new building of the Bank of Commerce. It is hoped that a new post office will also be erected, and several surveys have been made by the government.* The present public school having proved insufficient in size, its capa-

city will be doubled by building to the rear—an undertaking for which provisions were made in the original plans. Still another building of public interest is a hospital which the Order of the Oblat, under the auspices of the Roman Catholic church, intend to erect and for which, even now, material is being placed upon the ground.

Even the cold weather of a western winter has not been sufficient to interrupt building operations, and even while I write I can hear the sound of the hammer in the distance. Indeed not merely carpentry but masonry has been sedulously proceeded with during the entire winter. The magnificent hotel building of Messrs. Beaubier and Smyth—The Empire—certainly one of the very finest hotel buildings in the west, was begun last October and will be completed in May. It is a solid brick structure, and yet the weather interfered little with the progress of the masonry. The large hotel being built by Graham Bros. in

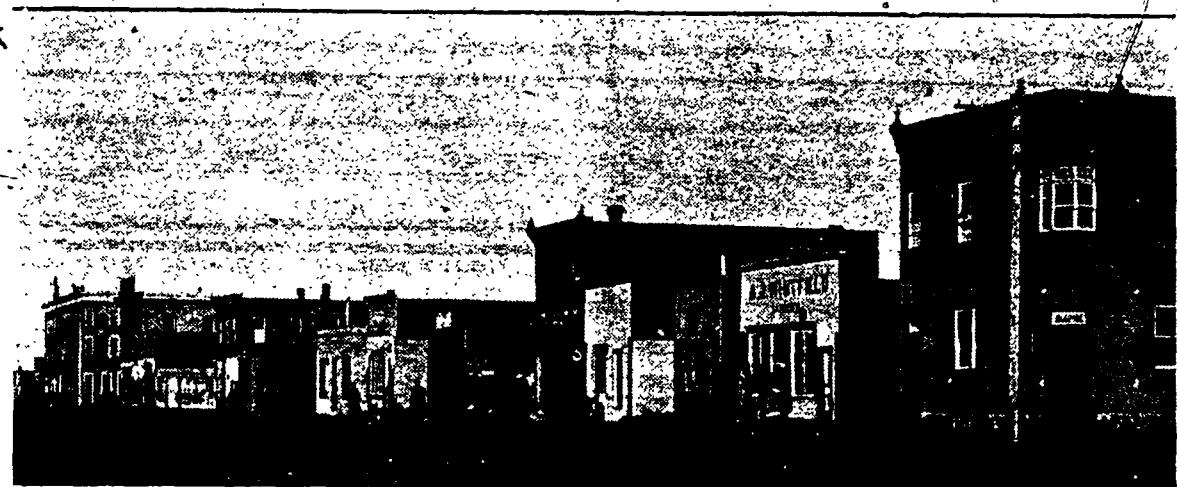
Riversdale, has also been erected during the winter months, and will open its doors to the public on the first of March.

Even more striking than the business blocks of Saskatoon, at the present time, though it may not be so in the future, are the residences that are ranged up along Spadina Crescent, overlooking the river, as well as scattered everywhere throughout the town. Homes like those of Mr. W. C. Sutherland, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Jason Graham, Mr. W. A. Coulthard, Mr. J. C. Drinkle, Mr. Thos. Copland,* or Mr. Jas. Clinkskill would make an ornament for any of our towns or cities.

At the present time it is true that though all the fine residences of the town are by no means confined to the Crescent overlooking the river, yet that is the most desirable residential site for many reasons. But it will not be long before other positions in town will rival it. All along the gently sloping hill which runs around the north and west of the town, and part of which is even now known as Pleasant Hill, there are building sites which, in the opinion of many, are even to be preferred to those on the Crescent. And another residential portion of the city must inevitably be upon the elevated back of the Nutana side of the river. Many to-day prefer that to anything else that is offered them.

And while speaking of Nutana we are reminded of the parks. The Nutana bank of the river is all a park—it has been reserved for that express purpose. The owners of the land on that side saw the advantages of such a reservation for, though involving a sacrifice on their part of the most beautiful tract in their possession, the fact of its being held as a park will so increase the value of the surrounding territory as to net them a handsome return in the end. This park resembles in many respects the hill upon which stand the parliament buildings at Ottawa. Like the hill of the Dominion capital, the Nutana hill is heavily wooded. It has a beautiful roadway running from the ferry wharf up to the level land, and there are woodland paths branching here and there that with

* A post office site, 90x100, corner First Avenue and 21st Street, has been purchased by the Dominion Government at a cost of \$9,000.



East Side of Second Avenue, Saskatoon



A Picturesque Approach to the Saskatchewan, East Bank

a little trimming could easily be converted into ideal "lovers' walks."

Next in importance to the Nutana park is that which at the present time is used as an exhibition park by the Agricultural Society of the district. The property, however, belongs to the town, and was purchased by them for park purposes in the more strict sense. The block contains fifty acres and in 1903 was purchased for thirty dollars an acre; to-day three hundred dollars an acre could not buy it. It fronts for about a quarter of a mile on the river bank and is even now surrounded by residences. It will only be a very short time before it may be said to be in the very heart of the town. It would be poor economy to reserve so valuable a piece of land for exhibition purposes, and inevitably it must in the very near future be given up to the public as a park. Trees, shrubs and flow-

ers will be planted in it, and drives and walks will be paved, and thus it shall become one of the beauty spots of Saskatoon, and as such one of the most precious possessions of the people of the town.

Another plot of ground on the west end of the city and at present within the limits of Riversdale has also been bought for park purposes and as soon as opportunity offers it will be improved and cultivated. Still another park has been reserved by Messrs Ashworth and Holmes in their addition to the townsite so that the indications clearly are that no matter how busy Saskatoon may be with its many and far-reaching railway systems it will still have ample ground for leisure and repose; no matter how smoky it may be with the fumes from the myriad engines it will still have roomy and beautiful fresh air spaces.

A Word For The Provincial Capital

This is a delicate question, and we would like to handle it honestly. Where will the capital of Saskatchewan be? It is a question which has to be answered once for all—forever; and it is a question which has to be answered soon. The exigencies of legislation and of judicial administration, the immediate demand of the times to be provided with provincial buildings of all kinds, make it necessary that the question be not long postponed.

The first point to be recognized is that the question is, in every sense of the word, an open-one. The same changing conditions which render advisable and necessary the upward step from the status of a mere territory to the dignity of a province, those same conditions inevitably force upon us the reconsideration of our entire system of administration; and the adoption only of such features of it as most fully meet the requirements of the new conditions and their future development.

Here in Saskatchewan we are entering upon an era in our history which a few years ago could scarcely be imagined. Then it was thought that only in the southern parts of the Great West would there ever be a considerable population. To-day it is recognized that the very choicest lands lie in the Saskatchewan Valley, and that here alone there is room literally for "teeming millions" of people. We must, then, expect that the arrangement which was made for the administration of justice and the formation of other laws, in total unconsciousness of the possibilities which during the last five years have become realities, would be sufficient, or can be endured to-day. The opening up of Central Saskatchewan has put an entirely new face on the situation. And when it is remembered that it is through this part that not one, but both, of the new transcontinental lines have made their way, it is evident that Central



Residence of W. A. Coulthard, Saskatoon

SASKATOON—THE HUB OF THE

Saskatchewan has now reason for being considered in this matter. At least this much is granted, that a vast and wealthy and soon-to-be thickly populated district has been incorporated into the newly formed province, which changes the situation entirely from what it was twenty years, or ten years, or five years, or even two years ago. New facts have to be considered which re-open all such questions and mayhap, when thrown in the balance, lead to an entirely different result.

we have now; the Canadian Northern is only a short drive distant, and its branch will be here in the spring, the Grand Trunk Pacific passes right along the southern boundary of the town site. These things are not the result of accident. It is because these powerful companies saw the central location of Saskatoon and realized the positive and inevitable future that is ahead of it that they are here.

Apart from the question of the capital altogether, is it not certain that all these

best blood was shed, but where her constitution was preserved intact.

And has the æsthetic no place in such an affair as this? Shall we grossly and blindly ignore all that Nature has done for us in one highly favored spot, and take unthinkingly what can be got in ten thousand acre lots anywhere and everywhere all over our vast province of two hundred and sixty thousand square miles? Will anything suffice, or shall we accept only the best that Nature has done for us? If we shall do this last, then here is a noble, lordly river stretching fair across the garden of Canada, from the mountains to the sea. In this princely stream, with its high banks clad with willows, and elm, and oak, Nature has been doing her best to gladden the eye and soul of all her children and fill them with patriotic pride. And upon the east side of this river, and overlooking its waters which come from afar to bring their tribute of homage to its feet is the elevated tableland where we would place the capital of the province of Saskatchewan.



Residence of Mr. Jason Graham, Saskatoon

If, then, the question is an open one, of which there can be no doubt, it behoves every person interested to see that the very wisest thing is done for the future, and it devolves upon the citizens of Saskatoon, not merely as a matter of ambition but of duty, to do their very utmost to see that the right course is followed, and if they believe that Saskatoon is the place where the capital of Saskatchewan should be located, for reasons hereafter to be given, then it is their bounden duty to do their utmost to have it finally settled here.

The sense of duty, as well as the sense of provincial ambition and local pride, are very successfully appealed to in this matter. And behind the aspirations of the people of Saskatoon is good, sound reason, for it is evident that they can offer inducements that cannot possibly be offered by any other city in Saskatchewan. The one question of central location itself precludes all other rivals. The other cities that present a claim are too far south or too far north. Saskatoon, as has been sufficiently demonstrated in another place in this sketch, is in the very heart of the new province. Measure from east to west, from north to south, Saskatoon is the very hub. And not only is she the centre of the province, but she is the one place that can claim to be the geographical centre of all the commercial west. Her central location having thus made strong her claim to consideration, we next look at the commercial situation, and her position as regards the railways. Here alone of all points between Portage la Prairie and Edmonton do the three great trunk lines operating in the west meet. The Canadian Pacific and one of its branches

circumstances, the central situation, and the extensive and far-reaching railway connection, will work to the building up of one of the largest cities in the west? No other city in the province of Saskatchewan can show anything like the same combination of circumstances working to promote its interests.

Then looking at the question from another standpoint in determining the solution of the vexed problem—the solution which must remain the solution for all time, whether it be the best or far from the best—in determining this solution, should we not have respect unto the things which in days to come will appeal to the sense of the fitting and the beautiful in ourselves, in our children and in those who shall make their homes in this fair land? Shall we erect a monument to our stupidity and slumbering sense of the incongruous; or shall we be governed by good sense and cultivated taste in this matter and win for ourselves and for our favored province, blessing and honor from those who shall come after us? Now is the moment to decide these matters, and Saskatoon can assist us in our conclusion. Not merely has it in its favor all the points of which we have already spoken, but running through her very midst is a noble river whose name is known far and wide, whose praises have often been spoken in song, and which come to us again and again in the sweet melody of poetry. It is an historic river; it has carried the voyageur and the pioneer far inland in their long, lonely journeys. It has known something of the bloody scenes by which our country's integrity was threatened, and of the battles and victories where Canada's

Dominion Government Offices

Not a great deal need be said regarding the Dominion Government offices here. Besides the two found in every town—the post office and the customs house—there are three others at least which are due to the particular prevailing conditions. These three are the Dominion Land office, the Northwest Mounted Police and the Government Immigration office.

The post office is under the control of Mr. Bowerman, who has been a resident of the locality for the last five years and has seen it through all its stages of growth.* Mr. Bowerman complains bitterly of the need of new postal accommodation at this point, and in this matter he is supported by every citizen of the town without a single exception. From time to time they have been encouraged by signs on the part of the government that they were about to do something; but governments move slowly. However, the people rest their hopes on the promise that they who ask shall receive, and certainly it cannot be long before their plea in this direction will be heard. Perhaps it is just as well that no final steps be taken at once, for if a building were erected now it could scarcely be known how large it would have to be in order to meet the requirements of the future, and there would just be the danger of a repetition of the present situation when an office built for the slender business of a few years ago is strained into service even yet when the volume of business has passed far beyond its capacity. It is a fact that the present postal facilities of Saskatoon are shamefully inadequate, and it is to be hoped that very soon a temporary relief at least from these grievances will be found.

Some idea of the situation in the post office may be had from the following facts:—In 1901 the census was taken by Mr. Bowerman, and the population of Saskatoon was 94 persons, and the population of the whole district for thirty miles east and

* A new post office building is now in use. May, 1908.

west was under four hundred. It was then the present post office was established. Today the population of Saskatoon, without going outside of the town limits, is about thirty-five hundred, and yet the old post office, with a couple of hundred dollars' worth of improvements, two or three times added, is made to do the work for this increased population. In addition to this, the district over which mail matter is distributed from Saskatoon has, with the influx of immigration, not diminished, but increased. Post offices have not as yet been established in the newly settled parts, and farmers all through the Goose Lake country and for a hundred miles from here, still come to Saskatoon for their mail. They carry it away in huge bags full. It is like a private postal system.

But better days are coming for Saskatoon in her post office. Even here eventually things will keep pace with all the other aspects of her busy, growing life; and when the government does decide to do something, it will decidedly do something handsome.

CUSTOMS OFFICE

In regard to the collection of His Majesty's customs, Saskatoon is an outpost under Regina. It was only in October of last year that the office here was opened. Previous to that all customs business had to be done, most inconveniently, through the office in Regina. Now the office here has jurisdiction over a territory 250 miles long by 150 miles wide, and embraces Lloydminster, Battleford, Duck Lake and Humboldt. In the town of Saskatoon there are two bonded warehouses and two customs warehouses under the supervision of the collector. The officer in charge is Mr. J. D. Ferguson. Last year the returns for inland revenue alone were \$4,000 for three months; while the customs returns for the entire year were \$10,000.

MOUNTED CONSTABULARY

This has been the headquarters of a posse of mounted police since the days before the rebellion. At present the officer in charge is Corporal Jones, and with him are two assistants. The territory over which they have supervision extends from Rosthern on the north to the Elbow of the South Saskatchewan on the south; from the Eagle Hill Creek country, and including it on the west, to the Quill Lake country on the east. The laws, the enforcement of which chiefly engage their attention, are the health ordinance, the prairie fire ordinance and the liquor license law. The equipment of the force at this station is very complete, and any visitor to the barracks, whether on business or pleasure, is sure to be met with every courtesy.

IMMIGRATION OFFICE

This office is established entirely for the convenience of immigrants coming into the country and having little means and little information. A large hall built for the purpose provides shelter for a considerable number of families, and in the office instruction is cheerfully given and all possible assistance rendered in finding employment and homes, and farms. Doukhobors, Cäcilians, Swedes, Norwegians and others have been among the types which have passed

through this office, and these people are settled now far out on the western plains. This work is almost entirely a charitable one on the part of the government, and the official in charge is Mr. W. Braun.

DOMINION LANDS OFFICE

This is a most important department, but this is not the place to deal with it. The rules and regulations of the department are too well known to require any mention at all. It is sufficient here to say that there are still some choice homesteads in this district, and not far from Saskatoon. The agent here is Mr. Robt. McIntosh, and inquiries should be directed to him.

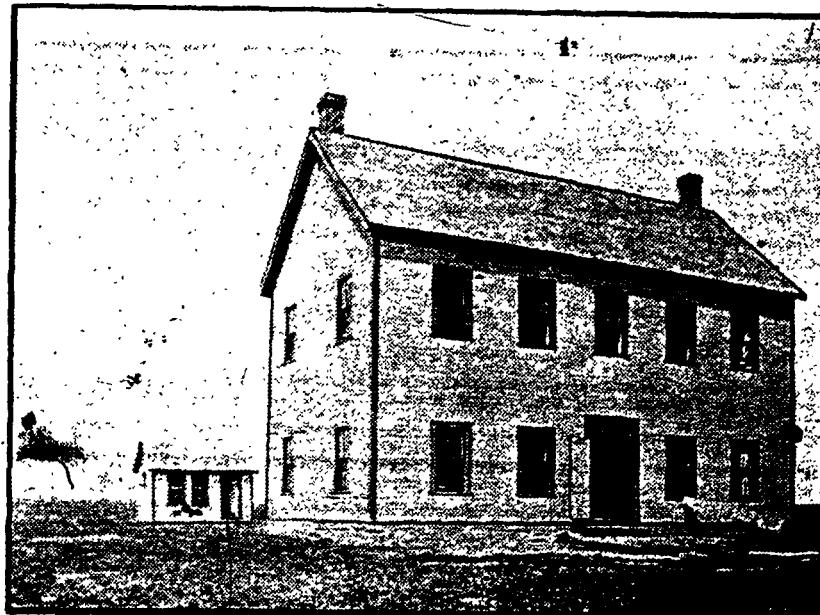
Learned Professions in Saskatoon

We have a strong force of legal and medical men, and as all of them are busy, the ranks are filling up still more, rather than decreasing. The lawyers, however, busy themselves not merely with the intricacies of the statutes but even to a greater extent with the profits of farm lands and real estate generally. Mr. W. C. Sutherland, M.L.A., has gone very extensively into farm lands, and has sold large tracts for the Saskatchewan Valley Land Company. Mr. John Ashworth practises as a barrister but is also a member of the real estate firm

Brown is secretary of the board of trade. Messrs. Acheson and Shannon also have a large practice as barristers and solicitors and in real estate work in close connection with one of the largest local firms.*

The medical profession is fully as strongly represented as is that of law. There are at present six medical practitioners here, and two other gentlemen will add their names to the list this spring. Drs. Peterson and Munro are both graduates of McGill Faculty of Medicine; Dr. Weaver received his training at Trinity Medical, in Toronto; Dr. Dickey is from the Royal University of Ireland, and Drs. Stewart and McKay represent the medical faculty of the University of Manitoba.

In the matter of hospital accommodation the men of medicine and their patients will soon be amply cared for. At present we have one hospital under the management of Nurse Sisley, where special attention is paid to maternity and tubercular cases, but where all except infectious diseases are treated. In addition to this there is already on hand a large fund for the construction of a general hospital. Mr. Thos. Copland has been the principal promoter of this scheme, and has received several liberal donations from philanthropic ladies and gentlemen in different parts of the country. Through his exertions the fund now amounts to something like three thousand dollars, in addition to which the Ladies' Hospital Aid Association of Saskatoon have on hand over one thousand dollars which will be spent in furnishings when the building is completed.



Immigration Building, Saskatoon

of Ashworth & Holmes, who have a valuable property inside the limits of the city. Mr. J. D. Ferguson has a remunerative practice, and at the same time is collector of His Majesty's customs. Messrs. Smith and Brown give most of their attention to law, possibly more so than any of the other firms. Messrs. Smith and Brown are the town solicitors, while Mr.

Still another hospital is looked for, and even now the material is on the ground for its construction. This is the hospital of the Order of the Oblat of the Roman Catholic Church. It is evidently the intention of the church authorities that this will be begun as soon as the spring weather comes.

* A number of new legal firms have since begun practice in Saskatoon. May, 1906.

SASKATOON—THE HUB OF THE

HEAD FOR SASKATOON



New Empire Hotel, Saskatoon

The Hotels of Saskatoon

This subject is important to all who are coming to Saskatoon, and therefore we have left it to the last. At the present time we have several good hotels—the Western, the Royal, and others of good repute. Mr. Flanagan, the proprietor of the Western, is an experienced hotel man and well known to the public. His house is first-class in most particulars, and as the conveniences of city life are provided in Saskatoon, the proprietor may be depended upon to incorporate them in his well-known hostelry. At the present time, it is the largest hotel in town that is as yet open for business, and during the coming summer it is expected to double the capacity.

The Royal is also a first-class house, and indeed Saskatoon is well supplied with good hotel accommodation, the Butler House, the Windsor and the Queen's being the names of other good houses here.

In addition to these houses, whose business may be said to be established, two new handsome hotels, larger than any of the others mentioned, have been erected during the past winter; and one of these—Graham Bros.' hotel, the Iroquois—opens on the first day of March; while the handsome solid brick hotel of Beaubier & Smyth, the Empire, will open its doors to the public on the first day of May.

The Iroquois is a fine three-storey building and furnished with all modern conveniences available. Under the management of Mr. Jason Graham it will soon secure a name for itself among the first-

class hostceries of the west. The Empire is a massive, square, solid brick block, and in addition to the underground basement and the ground floor, it has three upper storeys, the lower two of which are for the guests of the house. There are on the two floors provided for visitors some fifty odd rooms, all large and high, and the building is so constructed with large, deep balconies that every room is an outside room. The building will be heated by steam and lighted by both gas and electricity, while a system of water works will be installed by the proprietors. There will be bathrooms on every flat and electric bell and a telephone to every room. It is in every respect a thoroughly up-to-date hotel, and would ornament the streets of any western city.

Manitoba Free Press, Feb. 17, 1906.

Enterprising Saskatchewan Town the Centre of Railway Activity

Work is in full swing this week on all the new lines which the Canadian Pacific is constructing in the west this year. The contractors have hundreds of men at the construction, and the work is being pushed onward with vim and energy.

This will be a big year for railway construction for the C.P.R., and by winter there will be many miles of new road, opening for settlement virgin districts throughout the west. Most of the construction will take place in Saskatchewan, and Saskatoon will be the pivot point for the greater part of the work. Men are at work grading on the Pheasant Hill branch of the C.P.R., which will run through Saskatoon to Wetaskiwin and thence to Edmonton and Strassburg. At Saskatoon grading is going on both east and west. The new line will give a direct line to Alberta's capital, and will save many miles over the present route via Calgary.

WORK ON MANY LINES

Work on the Wolseley extension has been in progress for a couple of weeks. At Winnipeg Beach the line to Gimli has been started, as has also the Teulon extension. Another important line upon which the contractors started their men grading this week is the Yorkton branch of the C.P.R., which will also have Saskatoon as its terminal. Work at Sheho is now under way for this road. At Medicine Hat work has started reducing the grades.

J. D. McArthur has the contracts for the Winnipeg Beach line, the Teulon extension, the Sheho branch from Sheho and Wolseley, the grading at Medicine Hat, and the work from Saskatoon on the Pheasant Hill line. The construction of the Pheasant Hill branch from Strassburg and Wetaskiwin is being done by the British Columbia General Construction Company.—Evening Telegram, Winnipeg, April 26, 1906.



Western Hotel, Saskatoon

HARD-WHEAT BELT—WESTERN CANADA.

New Railway and Distributing Centre for the Wheat Fields of the Saskatchewan—Of Interest to Manufacturers and Jobbers of Agricultural Machinery

For several years thousands of well-to-do American farmers and others have been taking possession of the fertile wheatfields of the Great Saskatchewan Valley. Hundreds of thousands of virgin alluvial acres of prairie pasture are each succeeding year broken up and sown to wheat. Houses, schools, villages, and towns have sprung up, and several great systems of railway have been silently sending their streaks of steel through this vast grain belt of almost fabulous fertility and far-reaching extent. Settlement has kept well in advance of railways, and railways in turn have kept far in advance of map makers. So true is this to-day, that probably nothing more misleading (though unintentionally so) about the great Valley of the Saskatchewan in Western Canada is to be found than the maps even quite recently published by some of the best map houses in America.

After the railroads and settlers, no class of persons in an agricultural region are so much interested in the extension and de-

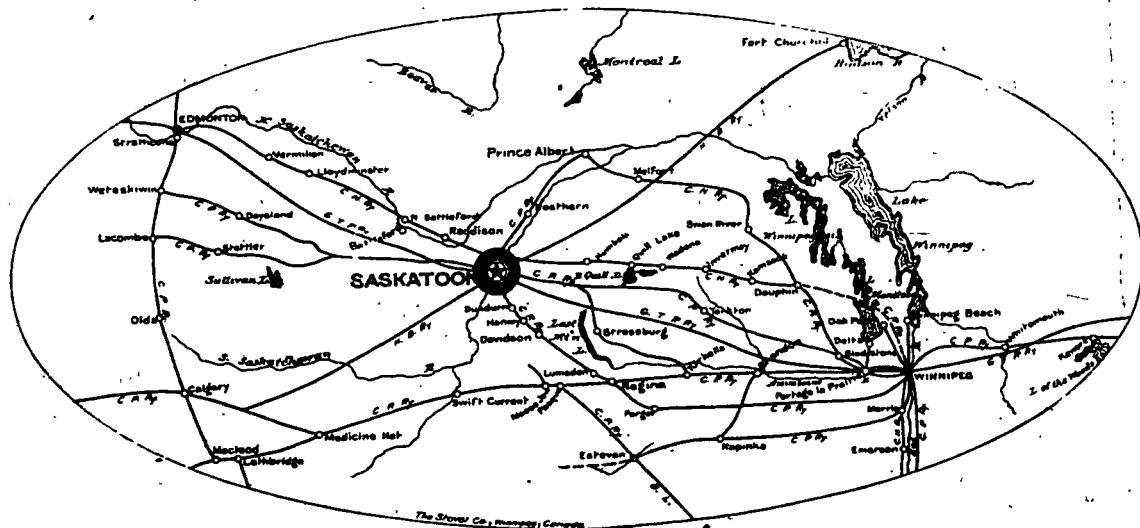
In the early eighties the site at Saskatoon was selected on account of its remarkable natural beauty as a place for a village settlement, by a British colonization company. When the Qu'Appelle, Long Lake and Saskatchewan Railway tapped the fertile wheatfields of the Saskatchewan in the early nineties, the most accessible crossing of the South Saskatchewan river flowing through these almost immeasurable acres of wheatland, was found to be at Saskatoon. Around this station on the Q. L. L. & S. Railway there grew up a prairie town, of much more than ordinary picturesqueness and beauty, but not of commanding commercial importance. The elevators, warehouses, mill and stores simply supplied the needs of the rich agricultural district surrounding Saskatoon. Such, in brief, is the rather ordinary commercial history of the village and town of Saskatoon up to 1906. There was nothing especially unusual about Saskatoon to attract the attention of implement men, except that a very large and

satoon between Winnipeg and Edmonton. The Grand Trunk Pacific can, unfortunately, judging from the energy and dash of their contractors now in work, run their main line through Saskatoon, will be hauling out grain from the Saskatchewan wheat fields this fall. The Canadian Northern main line from Winnipeg to Edmonton, traversing the fertile valley of the Saskatchewan, crosses the south branch of the northern doorway of Saskatoon.

With this rising city by means of the fifteen miles of Q. L. L. & S. Rail from Warman Junction to Saskatoon.

This makes practically four transcontinental lines centering at Saskatoon—the lines of the C. P. R.; the main line of the G. T. P.; and the main line of the C. N. B. Besides these great avenues of communication between the east and west, the Q. L. L. & S. Railway, now leased and operated by the C.P.R., but negotiated for originally by the Great Northern, passes through Saskatoon from the south-east. Other lines are at present applying to the Saskatchewan legislature for permission to build roads radiating in several directions from Saskatoon.

Apart from the extensive plan and objects of the close-lipped railway com-



velopment of transportation facilities and in the rise of railway and distributing centres as the makers and jobbers of agricultural machinery. For this reason we put before our readers a few most important facts, not very generally known, about the recent rapid rise to a position of chief distributing importance of a new place pre-eminently adapted for the distribution of agricultural implements over a large area of wonderfully fertile wheatland now rapidly setting up and being brought under intelligent cultivation—an area perhaps unequalled in the whole world for its vast extent and unfailing fertility.

This new commercial and railway centre of the Saskatchewan, even now unknown to many outside of the private offices of the magnates of great railway systems, is Saskatoon, a place whose population is still officially recorded in the last Dominion census (1901) as ninety-six inhabitants.

Rapidly increasing retail business in farm machinery has for years been conducted with most satisfactory settlements at this point.

Before this article reaches the eyes of our readers, however, Saskatoon will undoubtedly be a city, as its city charter is now before the legislature of the new province of Saskatchewan. Of the settled area of this mammoth new province, Saskatoon is practically the geographical and railway centre. It already has a population of about four thousand, and a conservative estimate places the number of its inhabitants at seven or eight thousand before the 1906 wheat crop is fully marketed.

Before even the 1906 wheat crop is threshed, the Canadian Pacific Railway will have two secondary transcontinental lines—extensions of the Yorkton and Kirkella branches to meet those from Wetaskiwin and Lacombe—in operation through Saskato-

nons. Saskatoon occupies a unique position of strategic railway importance. It is topographically and geographically the centre of the great prairie through which most lines crossing these millions of acres of fertile wheatfield should pass on their way from the great granary of the Saskatchewan to the sea. Whether to ports on the Pacific, or outlets to the Atlantic, either by way of the well-tried routes through Eastern Canada, or the United States, or to Hudson Bay, Saskatoon is a point most all will touch. This will make Saskatoon the logical centre for the distribution of farm machinery over the widest area of fertile wheatland in America.

Saskatoon is the actual railway and natural distributing centre of the hard-wheat belt of Western Canada, of which Winnipeg is the Eastern Gateway. This new city of Saskatoon is 500 miles from Winnipeg; 325 miles from Edmonton, the Gateway of

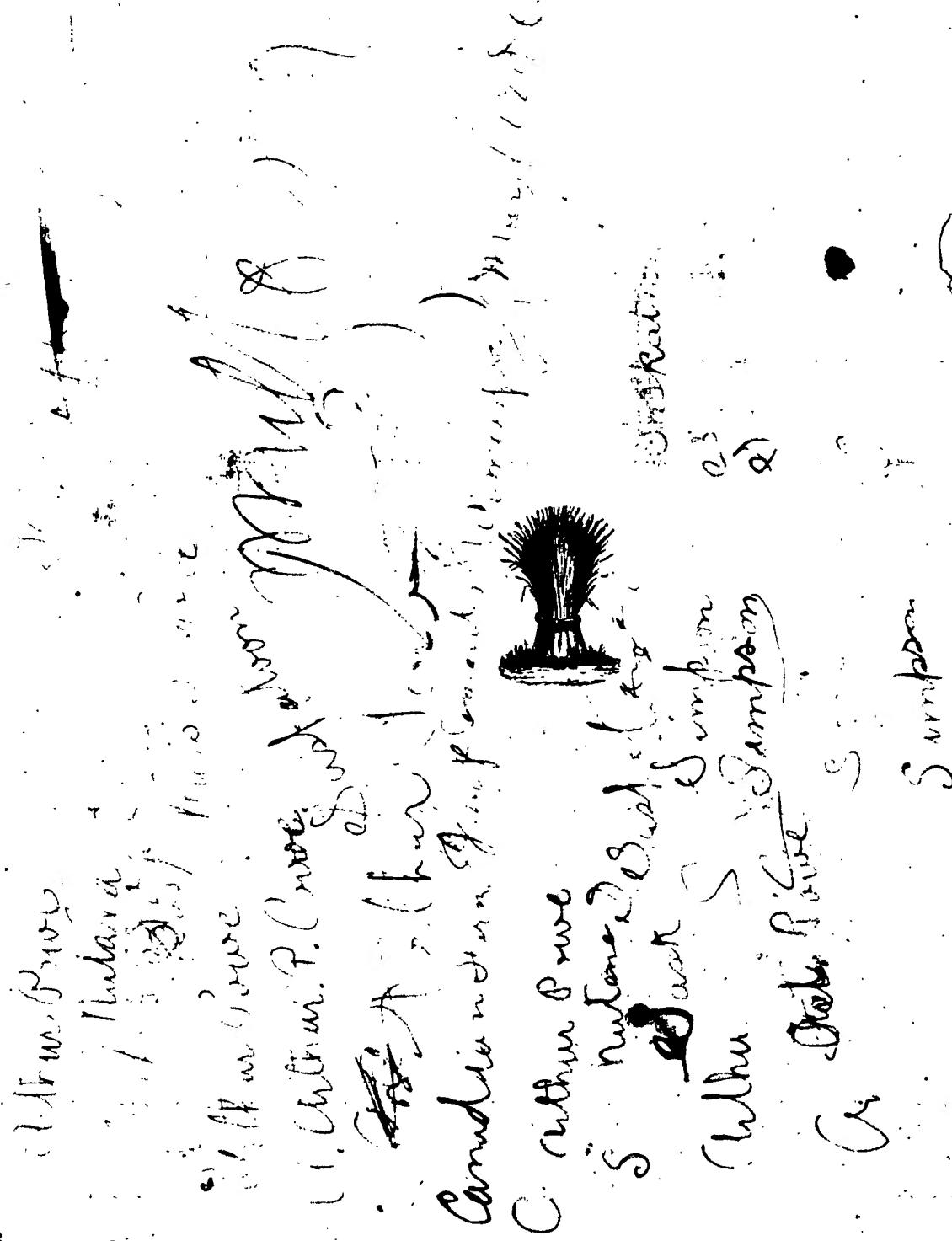
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SASKATOON—THE HUB OF THE HARD-WHEAT BELT

the Mackenzie Basin; 216 miles from the United States; and about ninety miles south-east and south-west, respectively, of Battleford and Prince Albert, the distributing points in the old days for the prairies of the Saskatchewan Valley. Those who know of Saskatoon, the new city of the Saskatchewan, call it the "Hub of the Hard Wheat Belt," since it occupies the central geographical position in Western Canada and has railways, now built or building, radiating to all parts of the compass and connecting it with almost all places in the new province of Saskatchewan and the whole of Western Canada.

This summer, with the advent of the two new C. P. R. lines and the G. T. P. main line into the Hub of the Hard Wheat Belt, there will undoubtedly be sharp advances in real estate values generally, and warehouse sites will no doubt go to many times their present prices. While property values have advanced since Saskatoon was a village a few years ago, and again, as it has recently reached the population of a city, land values are to-day quite low as compared with prices of similar properties in Edmonton and Winnipeg, after making all due allowance for the present populations and commercial facilities of the different cities.

It appears to be a matter of only a short time until all large houses in the implement trade doing business in Western Canada will have to provide extensive warehousing facilities at Saskatoon. It would seem the sensible thing for manufacturers and jobbers of farm machinery to make early selections of sites in Saskatoon while values are still quite conservative, and to be early on the ground for the big wholesale and jobbing business to be handled most easily, quickly and economically from this new and important railway and distributing centre for the Saskatchewan. *Canadian Farm Implements, Winnipeg, May, 1906.*



Condensed Directory of Saskatoon

POPULATION 4,000

The Natural Distributing Centre of the Great Saskatchewan Valley
The Largest Hard-Wheat Area in the World

CITY OFFICIALS.

Mayor—James Clinkskill.
Sec.-Treas.—Adam Turner.
City Solicitors—Smith & Brown.
City Inspector—Corporal Dunning.
Chief of Fire Department—J. Wilson.
Capt. Fire Department—A. E. Young.
Councillors—W. J. Bell, P. H. Currie,
James Wilson, S. A. Clark, H. Baker, T.
Copland.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Chairman—J. E. Paul.
Secretary—W. P. Bate.
Trustees—Dr. J. H. C. Willoughby, D. T.
Smith, A. E. St. Laurent, A. E. Young.
SASKATOON BOARD OF TRADE.
President—F. R. Oliver.
Vice-President—F. E. Harrison.
Treasurer—A. E. Young.
Secretary—Fred M. Brown.
Commissioner—H. C. Beatty.
Board of Trade Council—W. A. Coulthard,
J. F. Cairns, T. Copland, James
Leslie, J. F. Johnson, W. P. Kirkpatrick, J.
Archie Smith, Dr. P. D. Stewart.

GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

Dominion Lands—F. G. Tosh.
Immigration—W. M. Mighon.
Registrar of Statistics—A. S. Ferguson.
Postmaster—J. Ferguson.
Customs—J. Ferguson.

CHURCHES.

Anglican, First Methodist, Presbyterian,
Roman Catholic, Salvation Army.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

Union Bank of Canada, Bank of Hamilton,
Canadian Bank of Commerce, Bank of
Montreal, Northern Bank, Bank of Nova
Scotia, National Trust Company.

RAILWAYS.

Saskatoon is now the divisional point on
the Prince Albert line of the C.P.R. The
C.P.R. Secondary Transcontinental to
Edmonton will be in operation in 1906 with
Saskatoon as its main divisional point. The
G.T.P. has bought the right of way for its

main line and let the contracts for the immediate construction of its road from Portage la Prairie to Saskatoon and from Saskatoon and Edmonton. Both the C.P.R. and G.T.P., now under construction through Saskatoon, are rapidly being rushed to completion.

BUSINESS PROGRESS.

Careful commercial statistics show business amounting to \$2,000,000 for the past year, an increase of \$500,000 over the preceding year. This is a conservative estimate. Over 500 settlers' cars unloaded here last spring.

1,500,000 bushels of the finest hard wheat were grown in the Saskatoon District in 1905—an increase of 300 per cent. over 1904.

CLIMATE.

The climate of the Saskatchewan Valley is exempt from extremes of heat or cold or from high winds, and there is an abundance of bright sunshine throughout the year.

SASKATOON

THE DISTRICT has every attraction to offer the prospective settler and grower of grain. For miles in almost every direction from stretches, ready for the plow, a prairie most fabulous fertility. This is rapidly under cultivation. In 1905, Saskatoon produced over 1,500,000 bushels of the finest Hard-Wheat grown in the

SASKATOON

THE CITY is a rapidly growing commercial centre, most charmingly situated on both banks of the beautiful South Saskatchewan River.

SASKATOON IS THE METROPOLIS AND RAILWAY CENTRE of the most fertile and extensive Hard-Wheat Area in the World—the far-famed Valley of the Saskatchewan, where prairie farming has reached its most perfect development, and where dollars are more easily made than anywhere else on earth.

further information about Saskatoon, or the Valley of the Saskatchewan, write
THE BOARD OF TRADE, SASKATOON, WESTERN CANADA.

SASKATOON



.....THE HUB OF THE
HARD-WHEAT BELT
—OF—
WESTERN CANADA

SASKATOON is the natural distributing and actual railway centre of the Great Saskatchewan hard-wheat area, unequalled in the whole world for vast extent and unfa

For further information about Saskatoon, or the Valley of the Saskatchewan, write

SASKATOON BOARD OF TRADE, SASKATOON, WESTERN C.